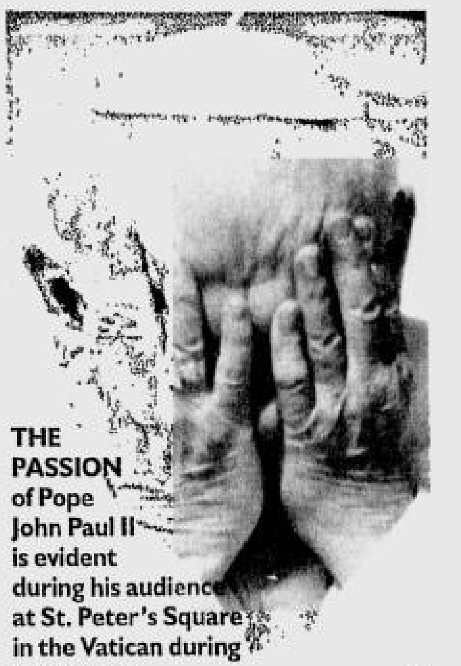


THE PASSION of Pope John Paul II is evident during his audience at St. Peter's Square in the Vatican during Holy Week. AP

Hong Kong reports 12 more SARS deaths

Story on PAGE A12

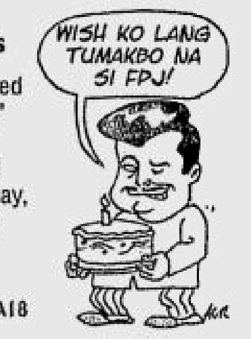
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

April 20, 2003 ★★ 140 pages / 16 sections / vol. 18 / no. 131 P15

website: www.inq7.net

Erap birthday wish: FPJ to run in 2004

By Volt Contreras


WISH KO LANG TUMAKBO NA SI FPJ!

HIS loyalists prepared "66 birthday cakes," deposed President Joseph Estrada told the INQUIRER yesterday, but he had only one birthday wish.

He wants best

ERAP/ A18

2 Abu hostages escape

Jehovah's Witnesses flee sleeping bandits

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau
and TJ Burgonio
in Manila

ZAMBOANGA CITY—When their exhausted captors fell asleep, two of the Abu Sayyaf's last five hostages crawled to freedom on Good Friday night, officials said yesterday.

Cleofe Montulo and Emily Mantic, both Jehovah's Witnesses preachers, were recovered by Army soldiers at a checkpoint yesterday morning, some 12 hours after they made their escape.

Montulo, 49, and Mantic, 22, were among a group of seven Jehovah's Witnesses abducted by the bandit group while selling beauty products in Patikul, Sulu on Aug. 20, 2002. One escaped, while two were beheaded.

Mantic witnessed the beheading of her husband, Lionel, and Lemuel Montulo, Cleofe's brother-in-law, in August.

Jeizel, Cleofe's 12-year old son, couldn't be happier. "Even if she did not manage to attend my graduation, I am still happy," he said.

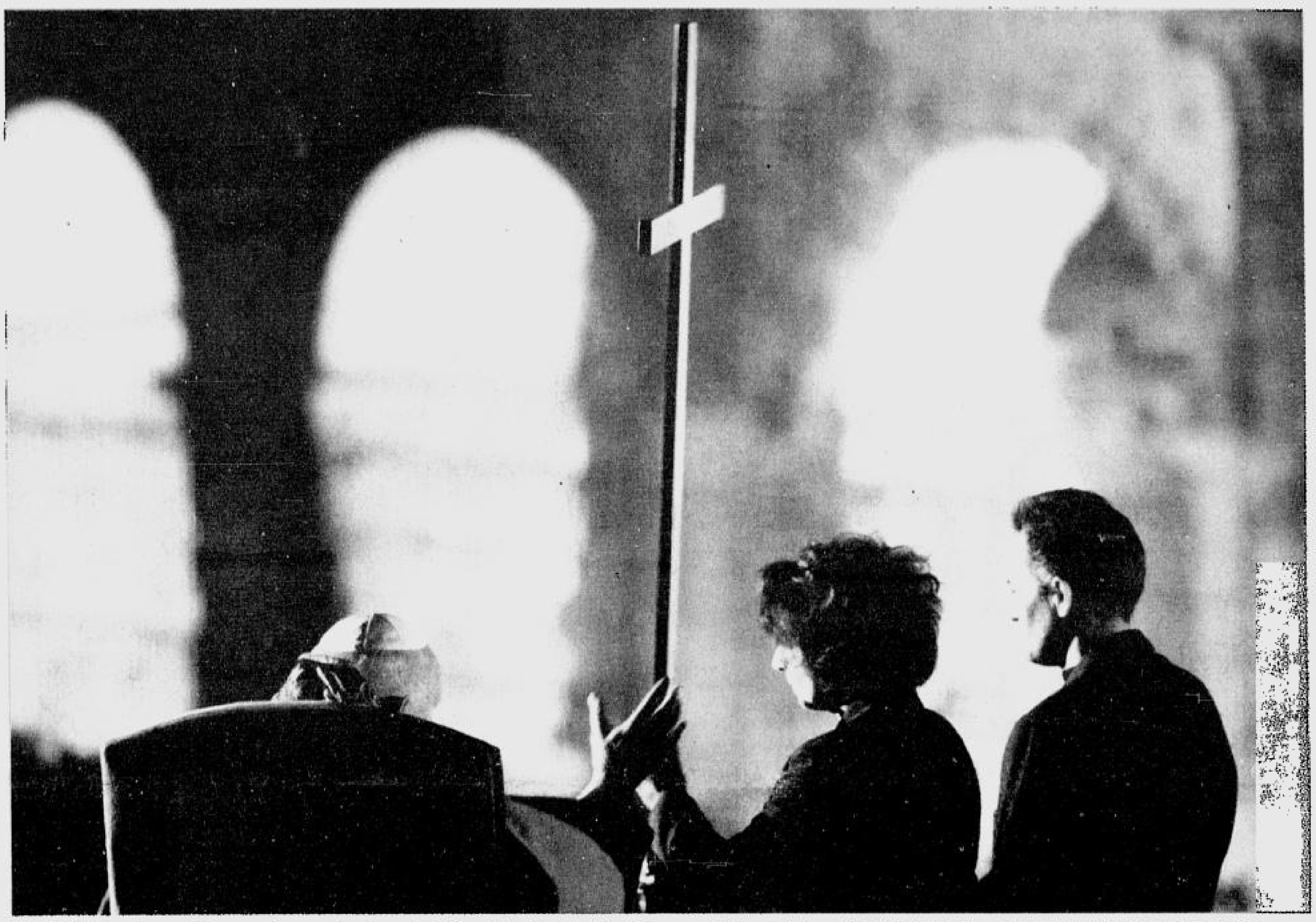
The ex-hostages told the military yesterday they had a chance to escape when their guards fell asleep on Friday evening.

"What they did was to put some clothes in their hammocks to make it appear that (they) were sleeping there. They then started to crawl until they reached the highway," Col. Joselito Bernardo, commander of the Army's 4th Infantry Battalion, told the INQUIRER.

Bernardo said Mantic told him their initial goal was to reach Luuk town because they knew there were soldiers there. "But they got lost in the night so they decided to go there in the morning," he said.

According to Bernardo, Montulo

2 ABU/ A18



SYMBOLIC handover of the cross from an Iraqi couple to Pope John Paul II at the Colosseum in Rome during Holy Week rites is a universal sign that man does not carry his cross alone but that the whole of humanity must share in the burden, and that the Pope is in solidarity with the anguished victims of war and terrorism. AFP

Iraqi refugees take center stage, help carry cross

ROME—Iraqi refugees took center stage during the traditional Good Friday procession at the Colosseum, helping carry the cross in a sign of Pope John Paul II's solidarity with those suffering from the US-led war on Iraq.

The ailing, 82-year-old Pontiff, presiding over the ceremony commemorating Jesus Christ's Via Crucis (Way of the Cross) and Crucifixion on Calvary, recalled the "victims of hate, war and terrorism" and prayed for justice and peace in the world.

As the white light of thousands of torches held by the faithful flickered in the darkness surrounding Rome's most famous monument, John Paul spoke slowly but passionately as he expressed thanks to God that he was able to keep the solemn appointment on the Catholic Church's most sorrowful day of the year.

Until two years ago, he used to carry a tall, wooden cross at the 14th and final Station of the Cross. For the second consecutive Good Friday, however, he sat in a chair throughout the ceremony, cloaked in a red mantle against a cool night wind.

Symptoms of Parkinson's Disease, arthritis and other ailments have made it difficult for the Pope to cover on foot the entire one-kilometer procession. Aides also said the Pope had been deeply saddened by the war on Iraq that he had sought to prevent.

Calling the Colosseum a "silent witness to power and dominion," as well as bloody spectacles in the days of the Roman emperors, John Paul asked God in these times to "look upon the blood shed by so many victims of hate, war and terrorism and kindly permit that the course of world events play out according to your will in justice and peace."

At one point in the procession, an Iraqi mother and her daughter carried the wooden cross for several meters. The

IRAQI/ A18

US Embassy stalls gifts of life to 'heart babies'

By Marlet D. Salazar

TWO toddlers are fighting for their right to live. But time is of the essence.

Yet their visa applications for free special heart surgery in New York are still pending in the US Embassy. The toddlers are beneficiaries of the Gift of Life (GOL) Rotary District 7490 Foundation based in New Jersey.

Until they meet the requirements the American consuls are asking from their families, the surgery will have to wait. But their babies can't afford to wait.

Miguel Angelo "Gio" de Luna, 2½, and Rizzie Marie Vitug, 3, were both diagnosed with tetralogy of Fallot. It is an ailment that is made up of four heart defects. The blood and oxygen don't flow normally as they should in the heart.

Gio was set to be operated on at the Montefiore Medical Center in New York on April 19; and Rizzie, on April 22.

The ailment can be treated with either a shunt procedure—a type of surgery that is used to temporarily fix the condition—or with open-heart surgery. Shunt procedure is a short-term solution that allows more blood to reach the lungs until the defects can be corrected. Studies have shown that the earlier surgery is done, the better the heart works later in life.

Jenny Montojo, GOL Philippines coordinator, said the surgery would cost

US EMBASSY/ A19

'LITTLE TIGERS' ON THE GREEN MARTIN NIEVERA

Miguel Tabuena, 8, who bagged Class E Champion in the Junior World Masters Golf in Kuching, Malaysia, takes to the fairways with President Macapagal (left) at Camp John Hay for 18 holes of play. She calls him "Little Tiger." Which makes them two of a kind.

Inquirer keeps lead in survey among readers

By Juliet L. Javellana

THE PHILIPPINE Daily Inquirer continues to be the No. 1 newspaper in the country, leading other broadsheets for the ninth consecutive year, according to the independent Asia Research Organization (ARO).

More than half, or 54 percent, of broadsheet readers the ARO surveyed nationwide in April last year chose the INQUIRER when asked what newspaper they read either today or yesterday. It was a marked increase from the ARO's survey the previous year in which 48 percent of the respondents picked the INQUIRER over other newspapers.

INQUIRER/ A19

GMA: Feast on 'tilapia' not 'galunggong'

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

THE DAYS of the *galunggong* (round scad) as the so-called poor man's fish are over.

Once used by then President Corazon Aquino as an economic barometer, the galunggong is no longer that affordable to the poor and has been replaced by the cheaper and more abundant *tilapia*, according to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Tilapia is commonly cultured and costs P60-P70 per kilo, while galunggong, which costs at least P90 a kilo is now becoming scarce and is being imported.

"That's why I think that the people should now make tilapia, which we can culture and which is cheaper than galunggong, their daily fare," Ms Macapagal declared at a press conference yesterday in Baguio City, where she spent the Holy Week.

"Let us change our eating habits to tilapia, which is growing more and more abundant every day," she added.

The fisheries industry has been doing "extremely well" by producing abundant cultured fish, the President said.

GMA/ A19

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Bicol Region swill experience rains with occasional gusty winds. Coastal waters of these areas will be moderate to rough. Visayas and Mindanao will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: ARMIN ADINA, PDI RESEARCH/04/20/03

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	**Iloilo/Bacolod**	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Baguio Cloudy	**Roxas**	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	PartlyCloudy	**Cebu**	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	**Tacloban**	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	**Gen. Santos**	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	**Zamboanga**	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Rains and Winds	**Cagayan de Oro**	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	**Davao**	Partly Cloudy

2nd probable SARS case in RP eyed

By Armand N. Nocum

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"That is why we immediately ordered a voluntary quarantine of about 10 San Lazaro doctors, nurses and more than 30 of her family members," said the official, who asked not to be named.

The official said the case of the caregiver had all the elements of a probable SARS case. She came from a SARS-infected area. She had a cough, flu and breathing problems, and had died of respiratory failure.

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In Canada, a member of the Filipino Catholic charismatic group Bukas Loob sa Diyos (BLD) Covenant Community died of SARS on April 1.

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"There is now strong suspicions that the BLD member the 29 were exposed to was indeed a SARS patient," Dr. Maria Consortia Quizon, director of the National Epidemiology Center, told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview.

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The situation at the Toronto condominium where the family lived is being likened to the Amoy Gardens in Hong Kong where many residents were infected with SARS.

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To date, no other people who attended the conference have developed symptoms associated with SARS, but they were ordered to stay home until Tuesday of next week as a precaution, according to John Carsley, head of infectious diseases at the Montreal Public Health Department. *With reports from Norman Bordadora and AFP*

Bishops: Risen Christ saddened by Iraq war

By Armand N. Nocum

TODAY'S Risen Christ wears a sad face because of the war in Iraq, a bishops' committee has said.

The migrant workers' panel of the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines said the crisis in the Middle East "cast a pall of gloom on an otherwise happy event." Traditionally, Easter Sunday is a joyful time for Catholics around the world.

'Not as blissful'

"Easter is not as blissful as it normally is. Many of our migrant families forget the joys of Easter season and mull over long weeks of passion," said Bishop Ramon Arguelles, chair of the CBCP's Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People.

In an Easter message, Arguelles said the plan of the government to send 100,000 Filipinos to rebuild an Iraq destroyed by US and British forces goes against the spirit of Easter.

"Our Easter faith does not approve of basing our hope in the misery, temporary or permanent, of others," he said.

But in his own Easter message, Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin stressed the good news of Easter, saying it was a time when "the whole Christian world once again exclaims that Jesus is alive."

Bigger significance

The celebration of Easter gains bigger significance if the faithful live it out in their daily lives, the cardinal said.

"Easter is more than just 'salubong' and Easter-egg hunting. Easter is being transformed like the first disciples. Easter is about acquiring a strong and formidable faith," he said. "Easter is about radiating life and love of Jesus to the world."

In a salubong, the Risen Christ and the Virgin Mary "meet" in front of the church amid the chorus of angels.

"By promoting peace, by holding on to our faith in God, by loving and serving our neighbor, we are proclaiming with our hearts that Jesus is alive," Sin said.

'Amang' in RP today

TYPHOON "Amang" will be within Philippine territory today, but it isn't likely to ruin summer leisure trips.

If at all, only eastern Luzon provinces would be affected by its northwesterly movement, said weather forecaster Rene Paciente, adding that Amang had also "weakened" over the weekend.

In Pagasa's 4:30 p.m. bulletin, Amang's center was reported as being 540 kilometers east-northeast of Daet, Camarines Sur. In the previous six hours, it was heading northwest at 13 kph.

It packed sustained winds of 150 kph with gustiness of up to 185 kph.

Typhoon Signal No. 1 remained in effect over Catanduanes, the Camarines provinces, Albay and Sorsogon.

Pagasa's forecast places Amang at 400 km east of Kasiguran, Aurora by this afternoon. It's expected to be 290 km southeast of Basco, Batanes tomorrow afternoon. *V. Contreras*

500 US Marines land at Subic

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE—Some 500 US Marines from Okinawa, Japan, arrived in this former US naval base on Maundy Thursday to participate in another military exercise with their Filipino counterparts.

But instead of joining Filipino soldiers in Holy Week practices, the American soldiers will be resting before their training starts on April 25. They will be getting a "lot of sleep," a US Marine official said.

The two-week training will focus on improving the "inter-operability" of US and Philippine armed forces to rapidly respond to small-scale contingencies, US Marine Capt. Burrell Parmer, Combined/Joint Task Force (CJTF) spokesperson, said.

"The exercise will demonstrate the US resolve to support the Philippines against external aggressions consistent with the Mutual Defense Treaty and the Visiting Forces Agreement between the two nations," Parmer said.

Training activities related to the exercise will take place in Clark Air Field in Pampanga, Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija, and Ternate in Cavite. *Allan Macatuno, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

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Alias|Wavefront MAYA (a taste of Maya)	May 3 to May 24 (Saturdays) 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00	Fee: P10,500
Macromedia FLASH (webpage animation)	May 5 to 21 (MWF) 9:00-12:00	Fee: P7,000
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Bishops: Risen Christ saddened by Iraq war

By Armand N. Nocum

TODAY'S Risen Christ wears a sad face because of the war in Iraq, a bishops' committee has said.

The migrant workers' panel of the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines said the crisis in the Middle East "cast a pall of gloom on an otherwise happy event." Traditionally, Easter Sunday is a joyful time for Catholics around the world.

'Not as blissful'

"Easter is not as blissful as it normally is. Many of our migrant families forget the joys of Easter season and mull over long weeks of passion," said Bishop Ramon Arguelles, chair of the CBCP's Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People.

In an Easter message, Arguelles said the plan of the government to send 100,000 Filipinos to rebuild an Iraq destroyed by US and British forces goes against the spirit of Easter.

"Our Easter faith does not approve of basing our hope in the misery, temporary or permanent, of others," he said.

But in his own Easter message, Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin stressed the good news of Easter, saying it was a time when "the whole Christian world once again exclaims that Jesus is alive."

Bigger significance

The celebration of Easter gains bigger significance if the faithful live it out in their daily lives, the cardinal said.

"Easter is more than just 'salubong' and Easter-egg hunting. Easter is being transformed like the first disciples. Easter is about acquiring a strong and formidable faith," he said. "Easter is about radiating life and love of Jesus to the world."

In a salubong, the Risen Christ and the Virgin Mary "meet" in front of the church amid the chorus of angels.

"By promoting peace, by holding on to our faith in God, by loving and serving our neighbor, we are proclaiming with our hearts that Jesus is alive," Sin said.

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'Amang' in RP today

TYPHOON "Amang" will be within Philippine territory today, but it isn't likely to ruin summer leisure trips.

If at all, only eastern Luzon provinces would be affected by its northwesterly movement, said weather forecaster Rene Paciente, adding that Amang had also "weakened" over the weekend.

In Pagasa's 4:30 p.m. bulletin, Amang's center was reported as being 540 kilometers east-northeast of Daet, Camarines Sur. In the previous six hours, it was heading northwest at 13 kph.

It packed sustained winds of 150 kph with gustiness of up to 185 kph.

Typhoon Signal No. 1 remained in effect over Catanduanes, the Camarines provinces, Albay and Sorsogon.

Pagasa's forecast places Amang at 400 km east of Kasiguran, Aurora by this afternoon. It's expected to be 290 km southeast of Basco, Batanes tomorrow afternoon. *V. Contreras*

500 US Marines land at Subic

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE—Some 500 US Marines from Okinawa, Japan, arrived in this former US naval base on Maundy Thursday to participate in another military exercise with their Filipino counterparts.

But instead of joining Filipino soldiers in Holy Week practices, the American soldiers will be resting before their training starts on April 25. They will be getting a "lot of sleep," a US Marine official said.

The two-week training will focus on improving the "inter-operability" of US and Philippine armed forces to rapidly respond to small-scale contingencies, US Marine Capt. Burrell Parmer, Combined/Joint Task Force (CJTF) spokesperson, said.

"The exercise will demonstrate the US resolve to support the Philippines against external aggressions consistent with the Mutual Defense Treaty and the Visiting Forces Agreement between the two nations," Parmer said.

Training activities related to the exercise will take place in Clark Air Field in Pampanga, Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija, and Ternate in Cavite. *Allan Macatuno, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

RP has much to be thankful for this Easter, says Gloria

By Dona Pazzibugan

THE PRESIDENT issued an Easter Sunday message that was a variation on an old theme. Count our blessings.

President Macapagal-Arroyo said the country has many "great blessings" to thank for, such as being spared from a fall-out of the US-led war in Iraq and from the mysterious Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome that has claimed over 150 lives worldwide.

"This is a day of hope as well as thanksgiving. We proclaim our thanksgiving for all the great blessings that have come our way in the name of the Almighty," Ms Macapagal said.

She said Christ's resurrection proved that every suffering has a counterpart blessing.

In Baguio City for the Holy Week, the President made unscheduled trips to St. Vincent Church, the Pink Sisters convent and the Little Flower novitiate to visit their Stations of the Cross.

"We did not want to send the wrong signals about cuaresma (the Lenten season) so we kept our schedules from the media. This is a solemn week for us," First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo said in Filipino.

The unpredictable schedule kept anti-war Protestant pastors and Catholic religious off balance.

"I think she's prepared to be lectured by the priests," a church administrator said.

Fr. Andres Cosalan, parish priest of the Baguio Cathedral, which is a usual presidential haunt, had counseled Catholics here to push for peace and harmony, and to avoid supporting an American-led occupation of Iraq.

UCCP Minister Norman Daynan echoed Cosalan's sermon with the warning that a post-war scenario in Iraq would still be marked by regional instability.

"Let this time of uncertainty be an opportunity to explore possibilities for building bridges across racial, religious, cultural and ideological boundaries," Daynan said.

The President also took time to unwind with a trip to the fairways. She invited Miguel Tabuena, an eight-year-old golf prodigy and Class E Champion in the Sarawak Junior World Masters Golf Championship recently held in Kuching, Malaysia, to join her for a game at the championship course in Camp John Hay. *With a report from Vincent Cab-reza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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Corinthians 3:1-4

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5 soldiers, 10 suspected rebels killed in Holy Week clashes

FIVE soldiers and 10 suspected New People's Army guerrillas were killed in three clashes in Bicol and the Visayas over the Holy Week.

In Ligao City, five Army soldiers were killed while nine others were wounded in a clash with communist rebels on Thursday morning.

On Wednesday, an NPA rebel was killed while three other persons were wounded in a fire fight at a military checkpoint in Lian, Batangas at 5 p.m.; while in Kananga, Leyte, nine suspected communist rebels, including a woman and a 13-year-old boy, were killed during an encounter with soldiers.

Communist spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal congratulated the NPA unit responsible for the death of the five soldiers, describing the incident as a "solid blow" against the all-out war policy of the administration.

"Once more the Red fighters have shown their courageous stand against enemy attacks and swung the battle in their favor," Rosal said in a cellular phone interview with the INQUIRER in Lucena City.

In his report to 202nd Infantry Brigade commander Col. Pedrito Magsino, 22nd Infantry Battalion commander Lt. Col. Pedro Tabangay identified the five soldiers as SSgt. Gerry C. Bulasoc, Cpl. Artemio C. Dumagpi, Cpl. Adrian P. Opena, Pfc. Sherwin B. Gumiran and Pfc. Robinson Agaton.

The nine wounded were identified as 1Lt. Bladimir Sta. Maria, SSgt. Dioscoro Barce, SSgt. Jaime Handa, Pfc. Bayangan Sapao, Pfc. Sydney Bantillo, Pfc. Reynaldo Pujeda, Pfc. Rio Rodriquez, Cafgu (Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit) Joaquin Orpida and a Cpl. Riodique.

In Lian, Batangas, one of three suspected NPA rebels on board a Pajero suddenly alighted and peppered a military team manning a checkpoint with bullets.

The troopers retaliated, resulting in the death of a suspected woman NPA member Joji Bautista, 32, and the wounding of 2Lt. Mark Angelo Hortillo of the 740th Combat Group of the Air Force, leader of the checkpoint team, suspected NPA members Michael Cabrera, 19, alias Ka Jerry and Charito Bautista, 32, alias Ka Teja.

In the Kananga, Leyte, incident, nine suspected communist rebels, including a woman and a 13-year-old boy, were killed during an encounter with soldiers.

A human rights group based in Tacloban City said, however, that the fatalities were not members of the NPA but farmers. *Ronnie Lorejo, Mei Magsino and Delfin Mallari, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau, and Joey A. Gabieta, PDI Visayas Bureau*

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OIC team to look into gov't–MILF ceasefire violations

DAVAO CITY—The influential Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) is sending a fact-finding team to Mindanao to look into violations of the ceasefire agreement between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

The government and the rebel group have accused each other of instigating violence even as a truce has been in place between them since 2001.

Augusto Miclat, executive director of the Initiatives for International Dialogues (IID), said OIC officials told them about the arrival of the OIC team.

The IID, the Mindanao People's Caucus (MPC) and some evacuees from North Cotabato and Maguindanao met with OIC officials in Manila to try to bring peace to trouble-stricken areas of Mindanao. They also met with President Macapagal-Arroyo and her Cabinet on April 2-14.

After meeting with the President, the group met with leaders of the OIC who told them of the plan to send an independent team to the country.

The OIC officials told them, however, the plan would depend on the government.

"It will depend on whether the government would give the go-signal," Miclat said.

Last year, the OIC sent a fact-finding team to oversee the implementation of the peace agreement between the government and the Moro National Liberation Front.

In Davao del Sur, five MILF rebels were captured after an encounter early Saturday morning in a remote village of Matanao town. *Joel B. Escovilla, Edwin O. Fernandez, Rosa-May V. de Guzman, Aquiles Z. Zonio and Grace C. Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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DEAN RICARDO L. SADAC
Review Director

Detained Iraqi to be deported

ZAMBOANGA CITY—The Iraqi national who was arrested here as part of the crackdown on suspected terrorists will be deported next week.

Maryanne Tlaa, wife of Saad Tlaa, said she was informed her husband would be sent back to Iraq along with nine other Iraqis picked up throughout the country.

"Deportation without due process is the same as the non-existence of law," Maryanne said. She said her husband is a legitimate businessman and had no ties with the Saddam Hussein regime.

She said her 36-year-old husband was granted UN refugee status in 1983 in the Philippines.

After they were married, the couple established a recruitment agency called Al-Anwar International Manpower Services Inc. with offices in Manila and in this city. The couple have four children.

"My husband Saad runs a legitimate recruitment agency that helps the government by earning dollars. If he is a criminal, he would not have done that," Maryanne said.

She said she was appealing for help from people who might be able to help her husband.

"We are just victims of circumstance, it's not my husband's fault he is an Iraqi," she said. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Who will pay peacekeepers?

By TJ Burgonio

THEY'RE ready to go, but will they get paid?

The United States has pledged to provide food and other provisions for the 500-member Philippine humanitarian assistance mission to Iraq. The issue of a daily cash allowance, however, has yet to be discussed, military officials said.

Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia, Armed Forces vice chief of staff and military spokesperson, told reporters the US military had committed to spend for the food, water, shelter and other such requirements of the Philippine contingent.

As for the allowance: "That is a matter that we are looking into. We are willing to send our people there on the basis of allowances that are available to the Philippine government to give to our troops."

Policemen who served as peacekeepers in UN-organized missions in former strife-torn states such as Cambodia, Kosovo and East Timor had received a daily allowance of at least $90.

Because the US-led coalition launched its attack on Iraq without explicit UN sanction, coalition members are expected to play a major role in the rehabilitation of Iraq. Whether the United States will provide UN-standard allowances, however, remains to be seen.

The government is sending a team of 300 soldiers, 100 policemen and 100 medical personnel to assist in the reconstruction of vital installations in post-war Iraq.

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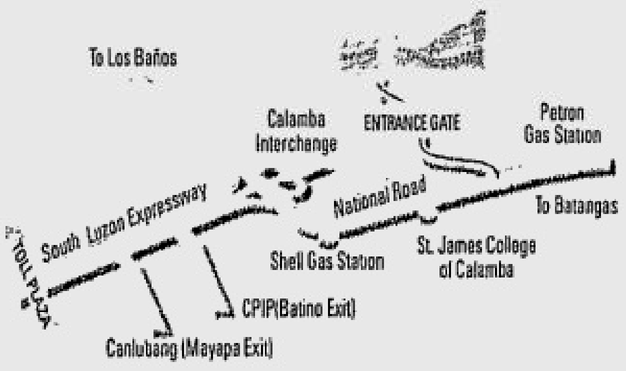

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Poll shows voters favor Cha-cha by constituent assembly

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

THE MAJORITY of Filipinos favor amending the Constitution through a constituent assembly, according to a survey of the Charter Change Now! Coalition released by the House of Representatives.

Marietta Primicias-Goco, a convenor of the pro-Charter change (Cha-cha) group, said 78.98 percent of 3,600 Filipino voters surveyed nationwide agreed to making changes to the 1987 Constitution. She said that of those in favor of amendments, 54.18 percent favored a constituent assembly over a constitutional convention.

"The latest survey figures show a ground-swell of support for Charter change and for a constituent assembly that can no longer be ignored," Goco said in a statement.

The survey ran counter to recent surveys conducted by private polling firms that found that majority of Filipinos were against Charter change.

Goco said 78.98 percent of voters nationwide are for Cha-cha and only 21.02 percent are opposed to it. She said 54.19 percent favor a constituent assembly against 42.49 percent for a convention, while some 3.33 percent are undecided on the mode of introducing amendments.

The latest figures were reportedly a reverse of the same group's survey in December 2002 where 58 percent were for a convention and only 32 percent were for an assembly.

Goco said the results of the April 8 survey was the "most dramatic boost" for Cha-cha after the House approved last month a resolution calling for a constituent assembly.

The Cha-cha group's survey asked respondents if they favored changes to the Constitution.

A total of 77.25 percent of the voters in Luzon said yes, while 22.75 percent said no.

For the Visayas, 80 percent said yes, and 20 percent said no; while Mindanao registered the highest marks for Cha-cha with 82.06 percent and only 17.94 percent against.

When asked what method of amendment they wanted, 58.26 percent of voters in Metro Manila voted for an assembly, the highest approval rating for this mode. Only 38.95 percent favored a convention.

An assembly would be composed of the incumbent senators and congressmen, while a convention would be made up of delegates elected nationwide.

Goco said a convention would cost the government P8 billion.

House leaders expect the Senate to tackle the assembly resolution during the resumption of sessions on April 21.

Speaker Jose de Venecia has said as many as nine senators are now in favor of convening an assembly.

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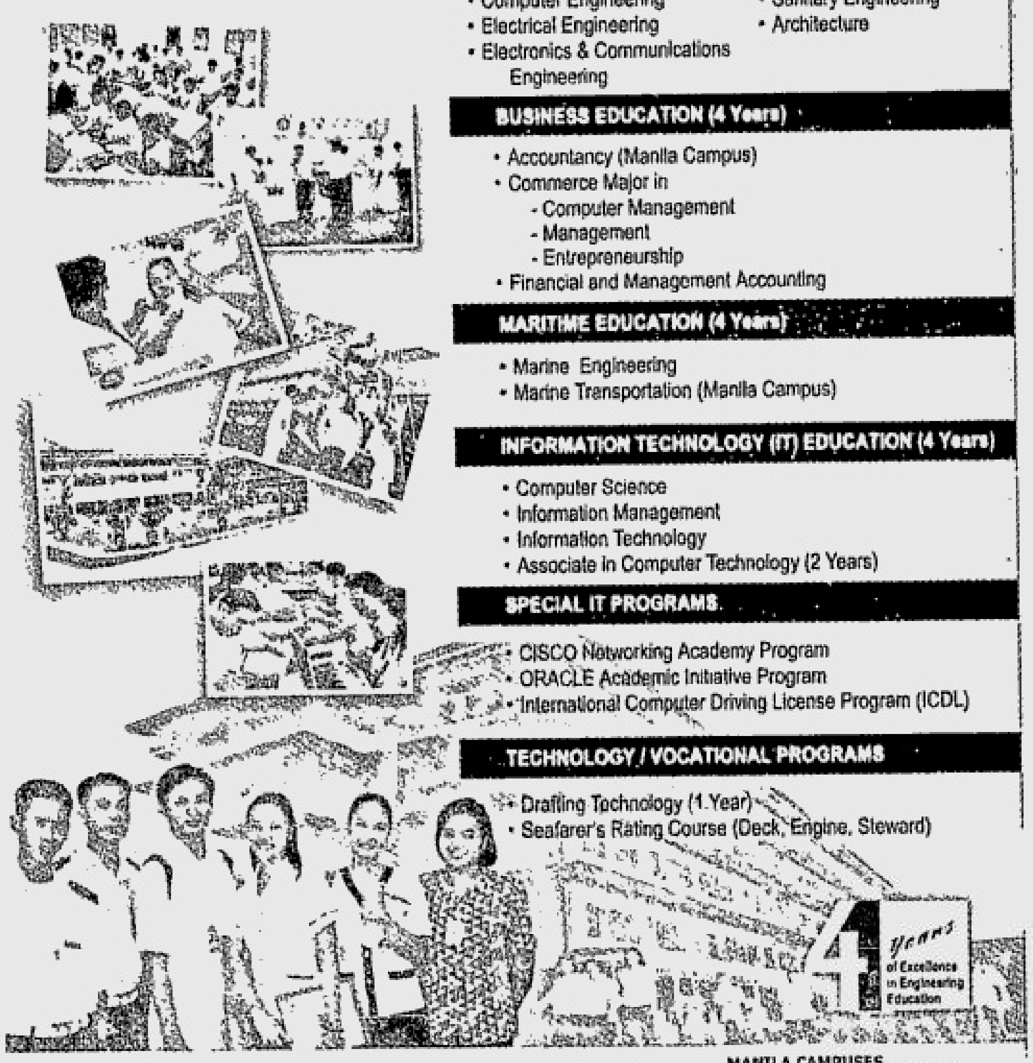
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Lawmakers want to lose the 'pork' but not the power

MATI, Davao Oriental—It's not quite what some people would want, but a progressive bloc of congressmen has proposed the elimination of the "pork barrel" allocation of legislators—up to a point.

Negros Occidental Rep. J. Apolinario Lozada said the group, of which he is an official, has initiated a move to scrap the pork barrel of congressmen and senators which has been attended by graft. Congressmen get about P65 million a year each in pork barrel funds, while senators receive about P200 million each.

"It (pork barrel) doesn't help us in any way. It only causes a rift among lawmakers," Lozada, who recently visited this town, said.

Lozada admitted the highly controversial allocation was being misused by some of his fellow lawmakers.

"Under our proposal, the pork barrel would be scrapped but the identification of projects in our districts would remain," he said.

Lozada said the group agreed the identification of projects should be left up to the lawmakers because they know the priority needs of their constituents.

"Under our proposal, you would only say 'OK fund the project, I want that finished.' But (we) don't have any say in the release or allocation of the funds," he said. *Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Half of firms surveyed deny workers benefits

SENATE Majority Leader Loren Legarda has urged the Department of Labor and Employment to submit to the Bureau of Internal Revenue the list of some 11,000 companies found underpaying their workers and violating other labor rules as revealed in a recent survey.

Legarda said there was a need for the BIR to investigate these companies for possible tax evasion.

She said firms that underpay their employees and deprive them of social security protection are more likely to be understating their tax obligations as well.

"We were once told that in business, there are two ways by which the unscrupulous cut corners to rake in more profits: by depriving workers their lawful benefits and/or cheating the government of taxes," Legarda said.

The Bureau of Working Conditions' latest six-month survey showed that 10,970 of the 21,397 establishments inspected nationwide were underpaying their employees by not giving them their 13th-month pay and regular holiday wages, and not remitting social security premiums. *Cynthia D. Balana*

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Pinoy faces noose in Malaysia over bag of pot

By Lullie A. Micabalo
PDI Mindanao Bureau

SIOCON, Zamboanga del Norte—"He did not know he would be dying in a foreign land. He did not even know he was scheduled to die on March 14, but his execution was stayed by the Malaysian government."

This is what a teary-eyed Majib Baginda, 63, said of his son, Andy, who is facing execution in Malaysia on a drug conviction.

The elder Baginda, a fisherman in Barangay Bucana here, said he last saw Andy on March 12, after the Department of Foreign Affairs flew him to Malaysia.

Before he was allowed to see Andy, Baginda said he was told by a Philippine Embassy staffer in Malaysia not to tell him he had been sentenced to die by hanging a Kota Kinabalu court.

"We wept during our meeting, our first since he left Bucana 13 years ago," the father recalled.

Baginda said Andy, now 29, had been reluctant to go to Malaysia at first but poverty forced him to go.

Andy worked as a carpenter in Kota Kinabalu and regularly sent home money between 1993 and 1996.

"However, in the latter part of that year, the communication stopped," said Jumbia Baginda, Andy's mother.

They learned of Andy's incarceration on drug charges when a neighbor returned from Malaysia and told them the news.

In 1997, Andy was able to send them a letter from jail.

"He denied he was involved in illegal drug activities. He said the bag that contained the marijuana was not his," Jumbia said.

Baginda said he has written Malaysian authorities asking them to commute Andy's sentence.

"I wish they would grant my request. I want to die when Andy is already home," he said.

Whether he would get his wish is up in the air. Reports had it Andy was to be executed yesterday.

'Lampoon' writers sue for diplomas

LUCENA CITY—Five candidates for college graduation who were prevented from joining their commencement exercises last week have asked the court to declare officials of the Southern Luzon Polytechnic College in contempt "for willful and deliberate disobedience" of an earlier court order allowing the students to graduate.

The five students—Jonathan Tacin Placino, Charisse Belle Placino, Jason Espinosa, Sherwin Angeles and Marilou Aquino—and the rest of the staffers of the students' official publication, "The New Kingfisher Newsletter," had been accused by school officials of being responsible for the publication of a "sexually loaded" lampoon issue of the school paper last month.

The school authorities condemned the lampoon issue as "obscene, vulgar, indecent, injurious to young readers, and detrimental to the interests of the whole academic community."

On April 9, a day before the graduation exercises, Judge Virgilio Alpajora of Regional Trial Court Branch 59 issued a temporary restraining order for 72 hours ordering SLPC officials "to refrain, cease and desist" from deleting the names of the five students from the list of graduates.

It asked the school not to withhold the students' diplomas and certificates of completion of their respective courses.

Lawyer Jun Flores, Integrated Bar of the Philippine Quezon president and counsel for the students, said he would file the contempt charge against the SLPC officials on Monday.

Cyrus Alvarez, the paper's editor-in-chief, maintained the issue was within the parameters of academic press freedom. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

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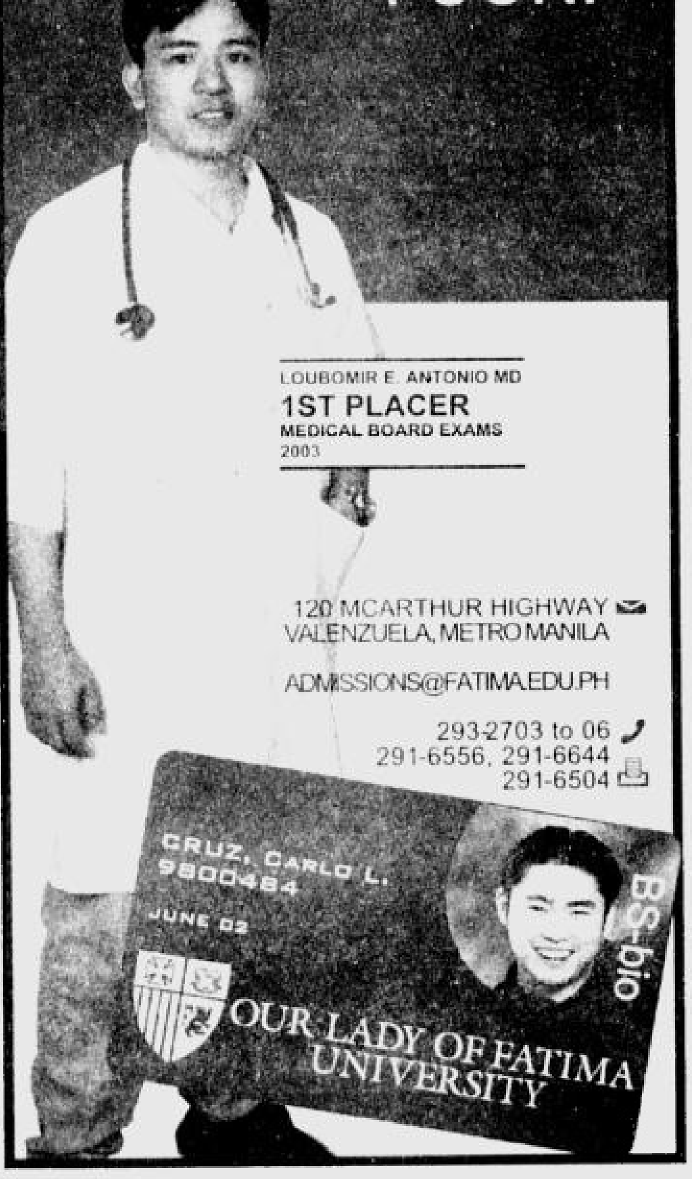

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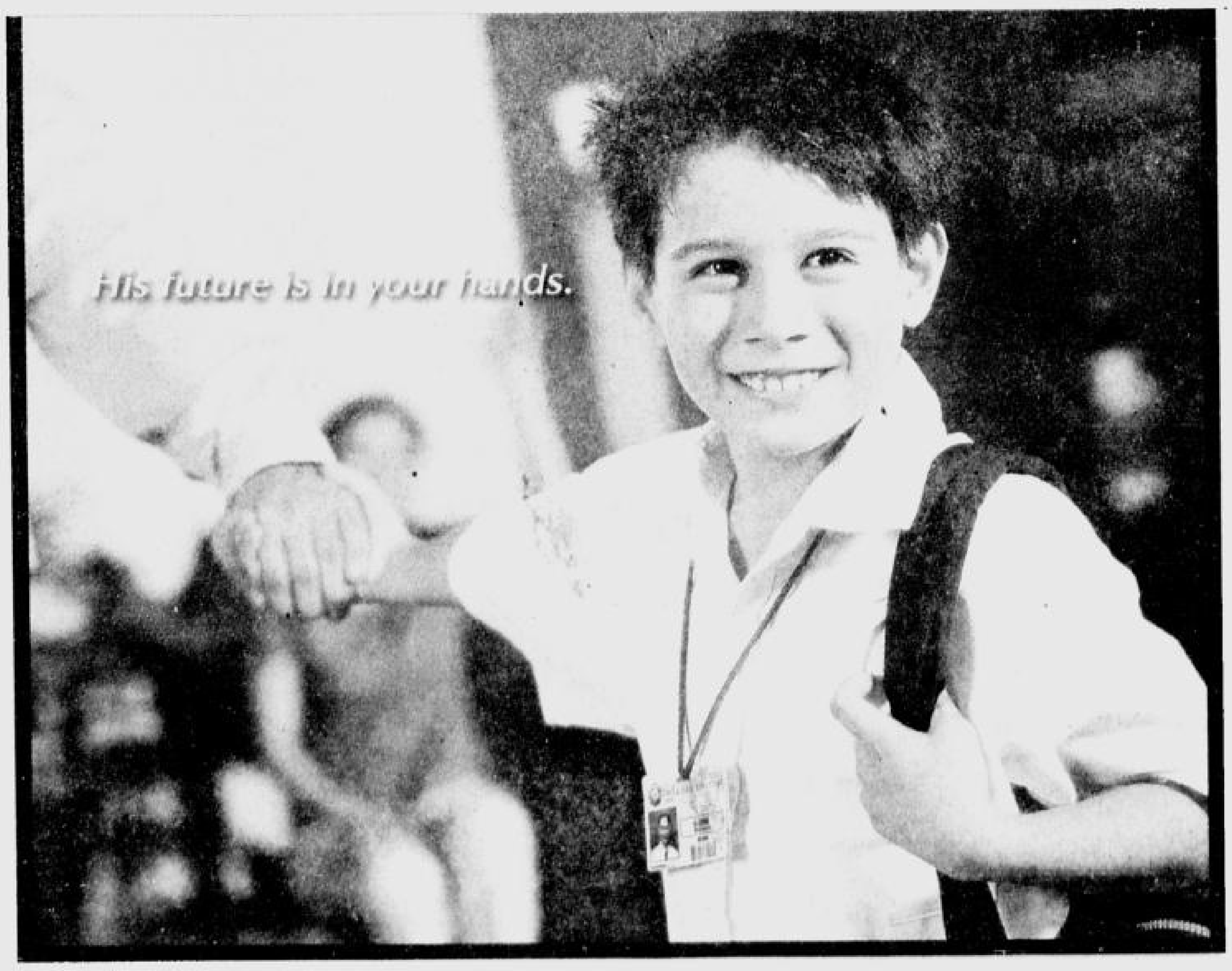
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OPINION

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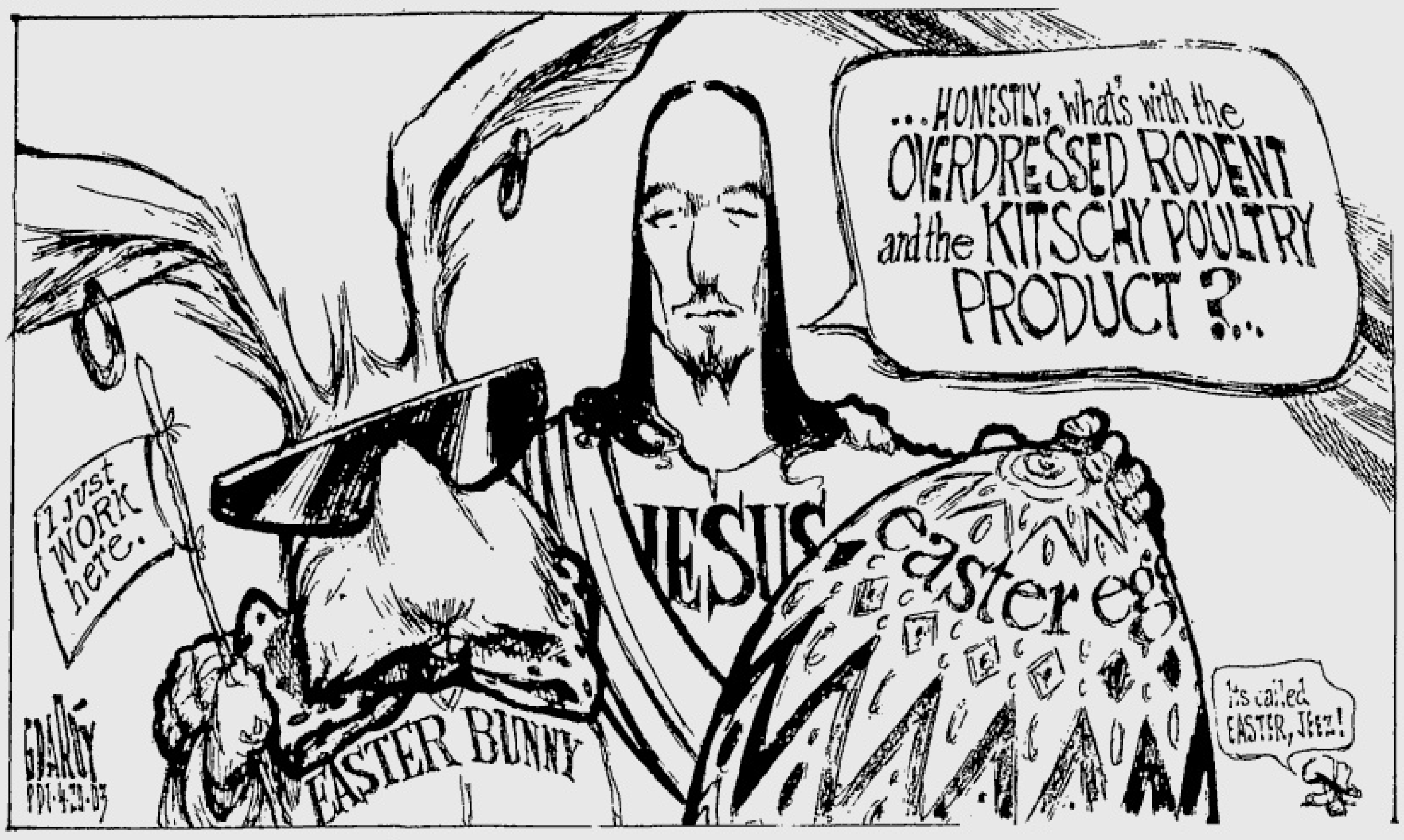
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Starting over

EDITORIAL

EVEN Saddam Hussein knew the advantages of rebirth. In 1979, when he assumed full control of Iraq, he saw the need to reinvent himself. During an unforgettable meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council, he completed his metamorphosis from able administrator to supreme leader in dramatic fashion: He presided over a bloodbath.

In that meeting, he forced the council's secretary to confess to acts of treachery. Saddam then asked others in the council to look deep into themselves and report similarly treasonous behavior. Those Saddam invited to confess were then executed. And to make sure that everyone else in Iraq understood the full import of his rebirth as dictator, Saddam had videotapes of the meeting distributed far and wide.

Saddam reinvented himself several times during his lifetime. In his last incarnation, he presented himself as the Islamic hero making a last stand against American infidels. Despite turning Iraq into a thoroughgoing secular state, despite waging war against fellow Muslims in Iran and Kuwait, Saddam successfully converted himself, in the eyes of many Islamic believers, into a martyr of the faith.

Evidently, the significance of a second birth is not limited to Christians, who are taught from birth about the need to be born again and whose central feast—today, Easter Sunday—involves nothing less than a resurrection. Saddam made use of the advantages of rebirth up to the very end, and thousands of non-Iraqi Arabs responded by taking up arms to defend his dictatorship.

Would that Saddam's apparent gift for remaking one's self were shared by the Iraqi people. A long-suffering nation has a historic chance of starting over. If they base their future on the recent brutal past, they are doomed. Their future lies in dismantling the octopus-like bureaucratic apparatus Saddam put in place and transforming their country into a working democracy.

Easier said than done, of course, but there it is. We say this even if we doubt the Bush administration's commitment to its own belatedly stated policy, that it invaded Iraq to install a showcase of democracy in the Middle East. As writers such as economist Paul Krugman of the New York Times has noted time and again, the administration of George W. Bush is long on dramatic initiative and short on follow through. Bush administration officials are simply not interested in the tedium of sticking around.

The war of words with Syria, even before the shooting war in Iraq has been won, does not fill us with confidence. It proves Krugman's point: the cowboys in the White House are not interested in the drudgery of ranch work, not when a new posse is being rounded up. Rehabilitating a country is for sissies, or at least those out-of-touch urbanites at the Department of State and their effete counterparts in the European Union. Real men go to war.

The numbers tell part of the story: The Bush administration asked the US Congress for a $60-billion budget for the war in Iraq. The US budget for Iraq's rehabilitation is one percent of that, or some $600 million.

The Iraqi people therefore face a future full of uncertainty, but they can be sure of this: They cannot depend on the Americans. The Bush administration will move on to the next crisis or the next war, as they have moved on from Afghanistan. And the American people, if history is anything to judge by, are reluctant imperialists. Once the costs of empire become clear, once the domestic American economy starts to feel the adverse impact of US military adventures abroad, support for rebuilding Iraq—minimal as it already is—will wither in the desert. To update the quote that led to the defeat of Bush's father in 1992: It's still the economy, stupid.

And yet Iraq's future does lie in transforming itself into a working democracy. The Iraqi people will have to make the transition without depending on American largesse. This is, as we know from our experience as the first-ever American colony, occupied under another US president who believed in "manifest destiny," an inordinately difficult task. But it is better for Iraq now to be born again as a new nation without expecting anything from the United States. They will save themselves grief in the future.

We did it our way

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I WAS elated to watch on TV the Iraqi people dancing in the streets over the downfall of the Saddam Hussein who had tyrannized them for 24 years. I was particularly touched by the front-page picture on the Star of an Iraqi man offering a small flower to a smiling female British soldier.

Saddam Hussein's propaganda machine had announced that the Iraqi people would resist to the death the invasion of their country by the Coalition forces. They were determined to protect their beloved leader. Saddam had urged them to "draw their swords," to slay the foreign invaders, who would shed "tears of blood."

He had misjudged his own people. They might have been willing to defend their country but not him. Saddam was the Evil One. It was he who, for more than two decades, oppressed the nation in general, and jailed, tortured and executed the enemies of his regime.

One of his sons-in-law fled after a failed coup but was persuaded to return with Saddam's assurance that all was forgiven. Back in Iraq, he was summarily shot to death. Another son-in-law suffered the same fate. After his aborted invasion of Kuwait in 1991, Saddam vented his rage on his own countrymen, slaughtering thousands of Shiites and Kurds who had rebelled against him.

His alleged store of chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction has not yet been discovered or will probably be planted by the Coalition forces to justify their attack against Iraq. But regardless of the truth or falsity of President Bush's charges, there is no question that Saddam Hussein is (or was) a reptile.

Is Saddam Hussein dead or still alive? It does not matter so long as the Iraqi people have been released from his bloodthirsty grip. If still alive, he can no longer exercise his ruthless power and will be a fugitive like Osama bin Laden. But he will not have the latter's heroic image as the leader of the Arab nation.

Death would be more merciful to him and his name. His capture and trial for his hideous crimes by an international tribunal would humiliate this proud man more than his certain conviction and condign punishment. Death now might eventually vindicate him in the long view of history. Napoleon set the world on fire in the 18th century but is now deified by the French.

Escape to a friendly country would reduce Saddam to the likes of Idi Amin of Uganda, who is now on voluntary exile in Libya. His return home would mean certain death for his unspeakable offenses. So too with Saddam, who could be executed like the despotic Ceausescu couple of Romania. Saddam in exile would be as reviled as, if not more than, his fellow international criminals.

The euphoria the Iraqi people must be feeling now reminds me of our own experience during the heady days of Edsa I. We too had our own tyrant who reigned over us as if there were no tomorrow. During the dictatorship, as Speaker Laurel said at a dinner where Imelda Marcos was the guest of honor, "only Malacañang is a-glitter and the rest of the nation is in darkness."

Marcos scorned individual liberties and human rights, distorted the Constitution, manipulated the Supreme Court and the Batasang Pambansa, enriched himself and his family with the people's money, favored his cronies with public fortunes, coddled the military to ensure their support, beguiled the masses with gaudy promises, and shamelessly wooed the United States to secure its blessings.

The important difference between Edsa I and the liberation of Iraq is that we did it our way. It was the spontaneous uprising of the Filipino people, finally fed up with the oppression and corruption of the Marcos regime that led to the toppling of the leader who had misled and misruled them.

We did not need the help of the American forces to liberate us. In fact, Vice President George Bush, the present president's father, had earlier praised Marcos for his "adherence to democratic principles." It was the Americans who took Marcos and his family, along with Ver and his other toadies out of harm's way to the haven of Honolulu. It was the Americans who prevented us from punishing Marcos, according to our own laws, for his crimes against the Filipino nation.

Bush's moral mouthings that the Coalition forces had invaded Iraq to liberate its people from Saddam Hussein has a hollow ring. If that were true, why has the United States not launched similar campaigns against other oppressed countries where local tyrants hold unlimited power without accountability? This professed policeman of the world, this self-proclaimed defender of democracy, has no more credibility than a cop on the take.

The United States could not have not known about the ordeal of our country from the abuses of Ferdinand Marcos but his friend Ronald Reagan did nothing about it. He even ordered the US armed forces to help the fallen dictator escape the people's wrath over his villainies. So much then for Dubya's pious protestations that he had been moved to invade Iraq to deliver its people from the tyranny of Saddam Hussein.

We should be proud of Edsa I because, to repeat, we did it our way. America did not have the right or the duty to intervene in our own internal problems, which we corrected ourselves with our own will and our own determination and our own courage. We acted as a free people and did not need the United States to liberate us.

SARS: Saved, Alive, Redeemed Servants

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a woman in Germany who did not believe in the Resurrection. In fact, her will was so specific that her tomb was to be made of solid slabs of granite fastened together by huge steel bars. She even instructed that, on her tomb be engraved the words: "This burial place must never be touched." But, in time, a small sprout appeared on her tomb, and soon the sprout became a big tree. All the slabs of granite and the steel bars could not withstand the life of the seed that has grown within. Now, over her shattered tomb stands a big tree, alive, and so full of life.

* * *

John's account of the Resurrection (Jn. 20, 1-9) starts with Mary of Magdala coming to the tomb early in the morning. She saw the stone removed from the tomb. The Lord has risen! He has overcome death. It was the victory of life over death, light over darkness, goodness over evil, joy over sorrow. The Resurrection is a beautiful story of hope, new beginnings, new life. May we all accept and take comfort that because the Lord has risen, we too can overcome whatever bends, dead-ends and walls that confront us in life.

* * *

Next time you pass by Edsa-Ortigas, look at the shrubs growing on the side of the concrete, an inspiring testament that life will survive, and that we will survive.

* * *

For Holy Week we wrote that we all have SARS (Severe, Accute, Recurring Sins) and that we all are Selfish, Arrogant, Rebellious Sinners. For Easter, we must be transformed into Saved, Alive, Redeemed Servants (SARS) of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

* * *

SAVED. Somebody has died for you and me. We were saved with much pain and suffering. We all are very precious and important. We all have the dignity of being sons and daughters in the Son. We were given a second life, a second chance. If we have been saved, then we must be GRATEFUL to Him who has saved us.

* * *

ALIVE. Because of the Resurrection, we can look forward to eternal life where there are no more tears, no more problems, no more pains, no more sorrow. Because we are alive, then we must live life well, by living a life so full of LOVE.

* * *

REDEEMED. We were lost, but have been found. We were blind, but we now can see! There was no way we could buy ourselves back. We were pawned (*sinangla*) but we were redeemed (*tinubos*). *Hindi tayo na-remata!* So we should rejoice and live JOYFUL lives, for, with, and in Jesus Christ.

* * *

SERVANTS. We are still sinners, but because of the Resurrection, we must become GRATEFUL, LOVING, JOYFUL SERVANTS of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has taught us by His word and by His very life that the road to take in this life is the road of service and love. As servants, we must continue to listen to our Master and follow His instructions. His vision is our vision. His mission is our mission. His agenda is our agenda. It is no longer we that live but Christ who lives in us.

* * *

Last Holy Thursday, I did something different in the washing of the feet. For the past 10 years already, I have been washing the feet of celebrities, politicians and businessmen on TV. I am not complaining. I don't mind the little sacrifice. In fact they have clean feet and even manicured nails and well pressed barong for the occasion. But that's precisely the point. A lot of it is just "one for the money and two for the show." Just when they thought everything was done, I told them of what Jesus said: "What I have done to you, do it to one another." So, I made them wash one another's feet! And they did, much to the delight of the audience. I am sure the message came out clear and loud too: service is for real, for life.

* * *

God really knows how and when to make His presence and love felt. Just when I was getting exhausted by my hectic Holy Week schedule, the Lord showed His care and concern in a very concrete way through a couple who came all the way from Tanauan, Batangas, and brought me some goodies and gave me an anti-flu shot, just to make sure I don't get sick, they said. And this, they did in a very simple, sincere and hidden way. But, like the Resurrection, goodness cannot be contained and the Good News must be proclaimed, so Thank you Dr. Johnny and Nemy Platon. These acts of kindness and many more from others make me believe and make me rejoice that love is real, and Jesus is alive!

* * *

God answers prayers! For a whole week I agonized over the loss of my small, CD player which is very handy in my recollections and retreats. But I prayed and believed and prayed on, asking the intercession of the Blessed Mother and Blessed Arnold Janssen. Finally, last Wednesday, it was found in the Convent of the Pink Sisters in Davao! Praise God!

* * *

Happy Easter everyone! Remember, you and I have a mission for our Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, because of you and the Resurrection, I have been saved, I am alive and have been redeemed. Help me to become your grateful, loving and joyful servant. Amen

Soldiers and priests

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

SOME folks have asked and I must apologize for assuming too much. Reveille is a wake-up bugle call just before sunrise, signaling the first military formation of the day. At the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), the first sound heard by the cadets on a cold Baguio morning is reveille and it means getting up and joining company formation to raise and salute the colors. Incidentally, just as reveille is the signal for a flag-raising ceremony, retreat is sounded prior to lowering the colors.

* * *

Last week we joined a different retreat, a Lenten retreat at Angels' Hills in Silang, Cavite. Together with Tagaytay City, this area is probably the densest, in terms of religious houses and institutions, in the whole country. The cool climate is the single biggest attraction and this accounts for more than 40 seminaries and retreat houses in the neighborhood.

The retreat master for our group was Fr. Mariano "Jun-Jun" Agruda III, a Carmelite who was marking the start of his sixth and last year as parish priest at the Mt. Carmel Shrine in New Manila, Quezon City. Almost 10 years ago, I was telling people that if they needed a spiritual lift, a sort of reveille in their daily lives, they ought to try hearing early Mass on weekdays at Mt. Carmel. The reason I gave was a young priest whose homilies were a joy to hear. No lectures, no threats about eternal damnation—just interesting stories, some about good people who were also sinners. In fact, they were good because they found out from actual experience what sin was all about.

At that time, Father Jun-Jun was finishing his masteral studies in theology at the Ateneo University. A few years later, he would be named parish priest, the youngest ever to head Mt. Carmel.

This has been my third retreat with Father Jun-Jun and each time he proceeded to guide us through prayers and meditation, my thoughts would often stray and I would find myself wondering why this bright and dedicated young man would choose a spiritual life of service in the church, as against a temporal, more worldly path. He could have chosen law or medicine or business, and he would have excelled in any of these fields. With his wonderful voice he could easily have been a recording artist and movie star. He could also have joined the Armed Forces and he would have been singled out for higher positions of great responsibility early in his career.

Which brings to mind some views on similarities between the AFP and the Church as an institution. This may sound a bit strange but the idea of democracy is alien to the military as well as to the Church. When you put on the uniform or the cassock, you give up your individual freedoms, your rights, your privileges, your prerogatives and you take a vow of complete obedience to authority. The penalty for disobedience could be dismissal or excommunication.

Most of our officers and priests come from the lower middle classes of society. There are very few young men from the more affluent sectors of the community who have applied for cadetship at the military academy. And the same is true when it comes to the priesthood. I am reminded that a few weeks ago, the No. 1 graduate of the PMA was the daughter of a caregiver working in Israel. The rich and the famous among us are not too keen about giving their sons and daughters to a life of service for God or country. For one thing, the rewards are few, the hours long and risks too many.

One can also say that the military organization and the Church are meritocracies. Promotions and career advancements are generally based on performance and competence, rather than the sway of outside influences. There are exceptions however, particularly in the military at its higher levels where political clout starts to exert pressure on the organization. But by and large, one moves up the ladder depending on one's personal merits.

Soldiers and priests are also very human. Just as some officers have their new rank insignias in their back pockets, awaiting announcement of possible promotion, some priests also have their skullcaps ready while hoping for the apostolic nuncio to proclaim the good news. Just as a number of soldiers, some of them real macho types, exhibit feminine tendencies there is a trio of bishops widely known as the Tres Marias. And in spite of a vow of poverty, we also have clergymen whose rings and other personal ornaments would put to shame some of our revenue collection officers.

As I mentioned earlier, Father Jun-Jun is on his last year at Carmel. Church regulations limit the term of a parish priest to two, 3-year stints. After Carmel, he is probably in line for a bishop's mitre. (Have you heard what a mitre is? It is an artificial vacuum sitting atop a natural vacuum.) It is also possible that the Church will send him for advanced studies at the Vatican or elsewhere. In the military, after a tour of duty in the trenches, a period of reflection in schools here and abroad, is not unusual particularly for the best and the brightest.

His parishioners will miss him and I am sure some of them are, this early, looking for loopholes in church rules in order to exempt him from the six-year limit—a typical Filipino weakness. If you visit Mt. Carmel nowadays, one can easily understand why his flock wants him there. But more than the physical changes which have been a work in progress, perhaps his greatest achievement has been bringing into the parish mainstream "the lost, the least and the last."

The lure of the pregnant belly

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THERE was a recent feature in an episode of "Planet Parent," aired on the Lifestyle Channel, that had me chuckling in remembrance and reflecting on the wider implications of this phenomenon.

And what is this phenomenon? The irresistible lure of the pregnant belly. Women interviewed for the show remarked how even utter strangers felt free to approach a visibly pregnant woman and chat her up, dispensing advice and observations, and even—horrors!—reaching out to touch her belly. "It's as if I've lost ownership over this part of my body," says one mother with a bulging belly. "I know people love babies, but the baby is still inside me, and it's still my body."

It wasn't just the touching that got to the women, though that seemed to be the most troubling aspect of being a public spectacle just by being pregnant. There was also the feeling that one's pregnancy opened one to public scrutiny and control, with the expectant mother showered with advice and instructions, however well meaning.

It's as if by choosing impending motherhood, a woman surrendered her individuality, chucking off her unique personal identity for the generic one of "mother." For sure, it's an identity and a role that many women choose freely and gladly. But it's an identity and role in addition to, and not in place of, the one she's worked all her life to establish and which in fact she's still in the process of unearthing. A mother who has lost her sense of self has lost her capacity to impart the same to her children, especially her daughters.

* * *

A WOMAN'S pregnancy leaves her vulnerable not just to hormonal mood swings and dramatic physical changes, but to the heavier burdens of social and personal expectations. "You know what's the most embarrassing thing about being pregnant?" a friend once asked. "It's an irrefutable sign that you've had sex!" And because a woman is so rash as to walk around with this undeniable symbol of her sexuality, then all those around her seem to feel free to make her conduct and her capacity for motherhood their business. The expectant mother ceases to be "just" a woman, but that exalted, and yet at the same time denigrated, being—a mother. Suddenly, she has to conform to a template of behaving and being, assuming the mantle of sainthood by forgetting herself and her own needs and desires. Why is it that motherhood is always equated with martyrdom? If it is fulfillment and completion, why should it always entail loss and suffering?

Why does one become a "good" mother only by effacing more and more of herself and her being? One would think that facing the challenge of birthing and rearing a separate being, a mother would have to be not just strong and resilient, but whole and entire, integral in her personality and desires, capacities and wisdom. Parenthood does not consist of giving oneself away, little by little, until by the time one's children are adults, there is nothing left but the hollow remnants of one's former role. Shouldn't it rather be a journeying with one's children, leading by example and inspiration? How can a diminished personality ever accomplish that?

* * *

A BILL was once filed (in the Senate, I think) that would have penalized any woman who endangered the fetus she was carrying by unhealthy behavior, such as smoking, drinking or taking drugs. Happily, that legislation didn't prosper or it would have flung open the doors for state interference into every woman's privacy by sole reason of her pregnancy. After all, smoking, drinking and the use of illegal drugs, though admittedly health risks, still aren't crimes.

Smoking in public places is penalized because secondary smoke annoys and harms other people around the smoker. Driving while under the influence is punished because the drunken driver is a risk to all other people on the road. While the law seeks to put behind bars not the drug user but the drug pusher—or at least that's what all the slogans say.

I suppose a case could be made that the responsibility of a woman to the new life inside her is analogous to the situations enumerated above. With one difference: while the public smoker, the drunken driver and the addict pose potential harm to people surrounding them, the pregnant woman's sole ambit of influence is her own body, even if it should be shared for a time by her child.

Perhaps the legislators realized that ensuring a pregnant woman looks after the health of the fetus she bears is better accomplished by education and services, and not by force of law or threat of punishment. We accomplish nothing by creating an artificial enmity between a woman and the child in her womb. But we help ensure the survival of both by making sure pregnancy, delivery and childcare take place under optimum conditions, with the best of care and under the most ideal arrangements.

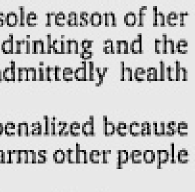
* * *

THE SAME "Planet Parent" feature sought a most humorous way to illustrate the public's "hands-on" approach to pregnant bellies by showing a pregnant woman stalked by a "special forces" agent, who, upon spotting her, whispers into a microphone: "Pregnant woman approaching! Get ready! Prepare to put your hands on her!"

Hyper-sensitive preggies often feel like the eyes of the world are on them, silently rebuking them for being so shameless as to walk around with visible evidence of their sexuality, then treating them as little more than vessels of the undeniably "cute" and "lovable" babies curled up inside them.

"I just wish sometimes that they would make eye contact with me and not just at my belly," a mother complained. And that's all women want: that people recognize the woman behind the belly, the person behind the mother.

Good and evil in Saddam's Iraq



PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IT would be a gross misrepresentation of the character and long history of the Iraqi people, I think, if our portrait of them were summed up only by images of a nation that marked its freedom by unbridled looting and lawlessness. There is surely more to Saddam's Iraq than a people kept down by a dictator's secret police and a ruthless regime. The point is not to set the record straight but to offer a perspective that allows us to understand why there is persisting doubt among Iraqis about the beneficial effect of their "liberation" by the United States and Britain.

This is not to defend Saddam. The crimes he committed against his own people and neighbors make him easily one of the most odious rulers in the history of the Middle East, and he does deserve to be overthrown. But how does one explain the anger of Sama Samira, a 21-year-old Iraqi university student, whose photo was taken recently while she lectured Tank Commander Staff Sgt. Terry Brake on how US troops have hurt Iraq by invading it? Could she be the daughter of a ranking Ba'athist official, or one of Saddam' s scholars perhaps? But there seem to be many more like her, ordinary Iraqis who speak to their incredulous liberators before TV cameras telling them that water and electricity should be restored ahead of their freedom.

The thing about any dictatorial regime is that while it oppresses it also makes things possible. No regime can be maintained purely on the basis of coercion. It would not survive if it did nothing for the people it governed, and if its impact on the rest of the world was relentlessly negative. Saddam's regime was no exceprion. Until the war of 1991, Iraq was home to about 50,000 Filipino workers. Up to the 1980s, it played host to many foreign companies including Landoil, a construction firm identified with Speaker Jose de Venecia. At the height of the oil crisis, Saddam assured the Philippines a steady supply of its oil requirements. By no means does this excuse Saddam's dictatorship, of course. But it does make one wonder why our government, hand in hand with the United States and Britain, suddenly found it necessary to liberate Iraq this year.

Embedded journalists traveling with US and British forces have treated us with pictures of a country that seems not to have benefited from its oil wealth at all. Surely this is not the whole of Iraq. Mani Shankar Aiyar, currently a member of the Indian parliament, was deputy chief of mission in 1976-78 at the Indian Embassy in Baghdad. In a recent article for UPI International, he provides a different picture: "It was Saddam's revolution that ended Iraqi backwardness. Education, including higher and technological education, became the top priority. More important, centuries of vicious discrimination against girls and women was ended by one stroke of the modernizing dictator's pen.

"I used to drive past the Mustansariya University on my way home from downtown Baghdad. It was miraculous—I use the word advisedly—it was nothing short of miraculous to see hundreds of girl-students thronging the campus, none in "burkhas" or "chador"—the head-to-toe black cape that was, and is, essential dress for women in most of the Islamic world—and almost all in skirts and blouses that would grace a Western university.

"The liberation of women—that is half the population of Iraq, as for any other country—has been the most dramatic achievement of Saddam's regime. To understand how dramatic just look across the Iraqi border at America's once-favorite Arab satrap, Saudi Arabia."

The truth of the matter is that Saddam's Iraq is a modern secular society, whose people are among the most highly educated in the whole Arab world. Saddam was for the West an effective foil to the Islamic regime run by clerics in neighboring Iran. That is why the United States and Britain kept him supplied with modern weapons.

"Saddam ran a brutal dictatorship. That, however, caused no concern to the hordes of Western businessmen who descended in droves on Iraq to siphon what they could of Iraq's newfound oil wealth through lucrative contracts for everything.

"Iraq under Saddam had everything going for it—except democracy. And it was, of course, the absence of democracy that accounted for Saddam brushing aside all vested interests: his instant liberation of women, his instant dismantling of feudalism, his instant caging of the priesthood, and, therefore, his instant—and, yes, brutal—exclusion from Iraq of all forms of religious fundamentalism and religion-based terrorism."

The Americans have vowed to establish a modern democracy in Iraq. Of all the countries in the Middle East, outside of Israel, Iraq is probably the one most prepared for political modernity. You can't say that for the rest of the Arab world, which are societies still painfully evolving from the ethos of sectarian tradition and personal rule. With Saddam out of the picture, Iraq can move forward and become a democratic polity. But the field is now also open to those who want a strict Islam to be the core of the new Iraqi state.

When one considers the wide range of regimes that America has armed and supported, one wonders if America, having secured control of Iraqi oil fields, really cares which way the rest of the country goes. The "liberating" forces would not lift a finger to protect the National Museum in Baghdad from looters, but they had all the time to secure the offices of the Iraqi Oil Ministry. That speaks a lot about priorities.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

International law: Casualty of war?

COMMENTARY

Fr. Ranhilio Callangan Aquino

WHILE glued to the television coverage of coalition incursion into Baghdad, a brother-priest asked me what, if any, was left of international law? The Security Council had adamantly refused to pass a resolution that would have authorized the mobilization of armed forces against Iraq, but the US-UK partnership invaded Iraq anyway and have since relentlessly pummeled it with uncontested superior power So, has international law been this war's first casualty? I do not think so, and that is what I will argue.

The question of whether or not the war is legal does not lend itself to easy resolution. It may very well be that no one answer will meet with consensus. I will not venture a position, except to insist that simplistic positions—such as an unqualified condemnation on the basis of an archaic version of the "just-war" theory—are exactly that: simplistic! It is however important to be clear that non-endorsement by the UN Security Council is not synonymous with illegality. Armed action by one state against another need not be illegal, even without Security Council sanction. A state would arguably be justified in forcibly interdicting another state that had pointed its missiles in its direction, was poised to blast them off after having openly threatened to do so. No Security Council resolution would be needed to legitimize a state's preemptive act in such a case. To protest that this was not the case with the coalition vis-à-vis Iraq is to beg the question, because that is exactly one of the pivotal questions in resolving the issue of legitimacy.

In a sense, the coalition decision not to seek a second Security Council resolution, and to commence hostilities, did the United Nations a favor. France and China, it was reported, would veto a second UN resolution either setting a deadline or providing authority for the use of force, and there was good reason to believe that they would in fact wield their veto power. Had the coalition launched its offensive, a veto notwithstanding, that indeed would have compromised very seriously the competence and the efficacy of the Security Council, and in fact of the United Nations itself.

What the impasse at the council itself does indicate, however, is that the Yalta-era compromise of conceding to a privileged circle of "powers" the veto power, may have outlived its usefulness. Not that all members of the Security Council would have done better to back the United States, rather the threat of the exercise of the veto power might have effectively rendered the Security Council incapable of dealing further with the issue. The "double-veto" only highlights the problem because it ultimately leaves to the select five the decision of whether or not an issue will be subject to their veto power.

The failure of the United Nations to hold the coalition might not appear as disastrous to it if we disabuse ourselves from the inclination to think of the United Nations as a superstate. It is not a superstate, nor even close to one, nor was it organically meant to be one. When a significant segment of the population of a state, or of its armed forces initiates action without governmental authority, one is right to suspect that a rebellion is afoot, or that government control is compromised, or that belligerency must be recognized. But when one considers that the United Nations is principally an organization of states with organs that in many instances resemble State mechanisms but in several respects are also different, then it should be clear that the coalition initiative does not have the same effect on the United Nations as unauthorized troop movement would have on a State.

Without a doubt, "aggression" is a philosophical-juridical concept that figures prominently in any debate on the legality of the armed invasion of Iraq. War protestors throughout the world—who do not necessarily outnumber war supporters—charge the coalition with aggression. The United States, for its part, has always maintained that Saddam's bellicose disposition and what it claims to be incontrovertible evidence—manufacture and stockpiling of weapons of mass destruction—constitute aggression that had to be dealt with. After all, Saddam had earlier shown that he could move swiftly and decisively when he wanted to when he invaded and occupied Kuwait. Very interestingly, no one can as yet be prosecuted for that crime before the court because the crime remains undefined. This only underscores the complexity of the concept of aggression and cautions against careless characterization. Before we can decide who the aggressor was, we must first make up our minds about what aggression is. Not that there are no clear cases of aggression, but that in this particular case, it is not clear what it is, or who the aggressor was.

International law is alive. It may have been compromised by this war, but not irreparably so. It is not beyond the United States to be the neighborhood bully, but quite interestingly, it has invoked international law repeatedly in this conflict. It charges the Saddam regime with having violated international law in manufacturing weapons of mass destruction and therefore it claims title to attack from international law. It has demanded humane treatment of POWs in accordance with the provisions of international covenants, and has gone to great lengths to avoid hits and strikes that may make it liable under international law. I think then that in several other respects, international law has in fact been the framework of the ongoing hostilities.

Violations of international law, no matter how arrant, do not necessarily signal its demise, no more than blatant violations of municipal law prove its non-existence. It was offensive to the Rule of Law for congressmen to threaten that they would refuse to comply with the Supreme Court's order against one of their erstwhile comrades. It is certainly a violation of an express constitutional prohibition that dynasties should plague our government. There are harsh laws against drug peddling, but there are criminal elements who peddle their wares quite openly. All this does not mean that law does not exist, only that it is violated. Similarly that a superpower may be able to flaunt international law does not mean that international law does not exist. In fact there are risks, as has always been pointed out, to them who consistently ignore it, for they invite lawlessness against themselves!

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TALK *of the* TOWN

Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

Should the Church be wary of New Age?

CHRISTIANS around the globe celebrate today the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God who died on the cross to redeem mankind. But for some people who are into New Age, there was no resurrection. New Agers believe in the prediction that an 'Age of Aquarius' dominated by true science and world humanism would succeed the present 'Age of Pisces,' the violent Christian era.

Most new Agers do not believe that Jesus Christ is God, claiming that he was just another enlightened teacher, who became aware of his divinity, while most men and women have yet to discover theirs.

Another aspect of New Age is the altered concept of reincarnation, which does not admit to being reborn as a lower level of being. Instead, at each reincarnation, one passes to a form of life better and more beautiful than the previous one.

As a way of thinking and lifestyle, New Age is also into environmentalism, holistic health, bio-feedback, therapy with crystals, yoga, Zen, tai chi, and qi gong. But the Catholic Church says that anyone who has these concerns is not necessarily a New Ager.

Because New Age has made inroads into the country, especially among the middle class and the wealthy, Church leaders consider New Age groups a threat to Christianity.

As long as people feel the need to search for new meaning in life and ask questions like "Who am I? Who is God? Where do I come from? and, Where am I going?" they will be attracted to groups that help them find the answers-be it the Catholic Church or New Age groups.

The uncritical acceptance of beliefs handed down by parents, teachers, and political and religious leaders is dangerous.

"'Become the peace you want to see in the world!'—Gandhi

By John M. Dowling
Management consultant and former Maryknoll priest

WE owe the Bishops' conference and the writers of the Primer our gratitude for a rigorously documented and carefully articulated discussion of the New Age reality that has touched the lives of virtually every religion, believer, non-believer and spiritual searcher in the country in recent years.

Without the necessary foundations, many are left to "do their own thing" in order to survive spiritually. Facing this "unintended neglect," many Christian believers launch their own search for a taste of God, a personal, nourishing relationship with the Father, a regular strengthening of the truth about themselves, God, others, the troubled and troubling world within and around them.

Some have arrived. Many are still on their way. Others are afraid to begin.

I continue to meet an increasing number of those who have chosen to take the time, make effort, spend resources, and accept the consequences of swimming against the current of opposing family and friends. They take the journey inward to self-discovery, self-respect, self-sustenance, self-fulfillment and self-mastery.

Before they were New Agers, they were our brothers, buddies, classmates, spouses, children, workmates. They still are! But they have decided to dig deep inside to hurdle the critical questions: Who am I? Who is God? Where did I come from? Who are these others? Where am I going?

I was one of these searchers. But a specific New Age study and its attendant disciplines really helped me find the answers.

'Love thy neighbor'

By Antonio Arando
Co-founder, Yoga Foundation of the Philippines

TWO thousand years have passed since the Son of man taught the way, the truth and the life to mankind. He brought health to the sick, wisdom to the ignorant and happiness to those in misery.

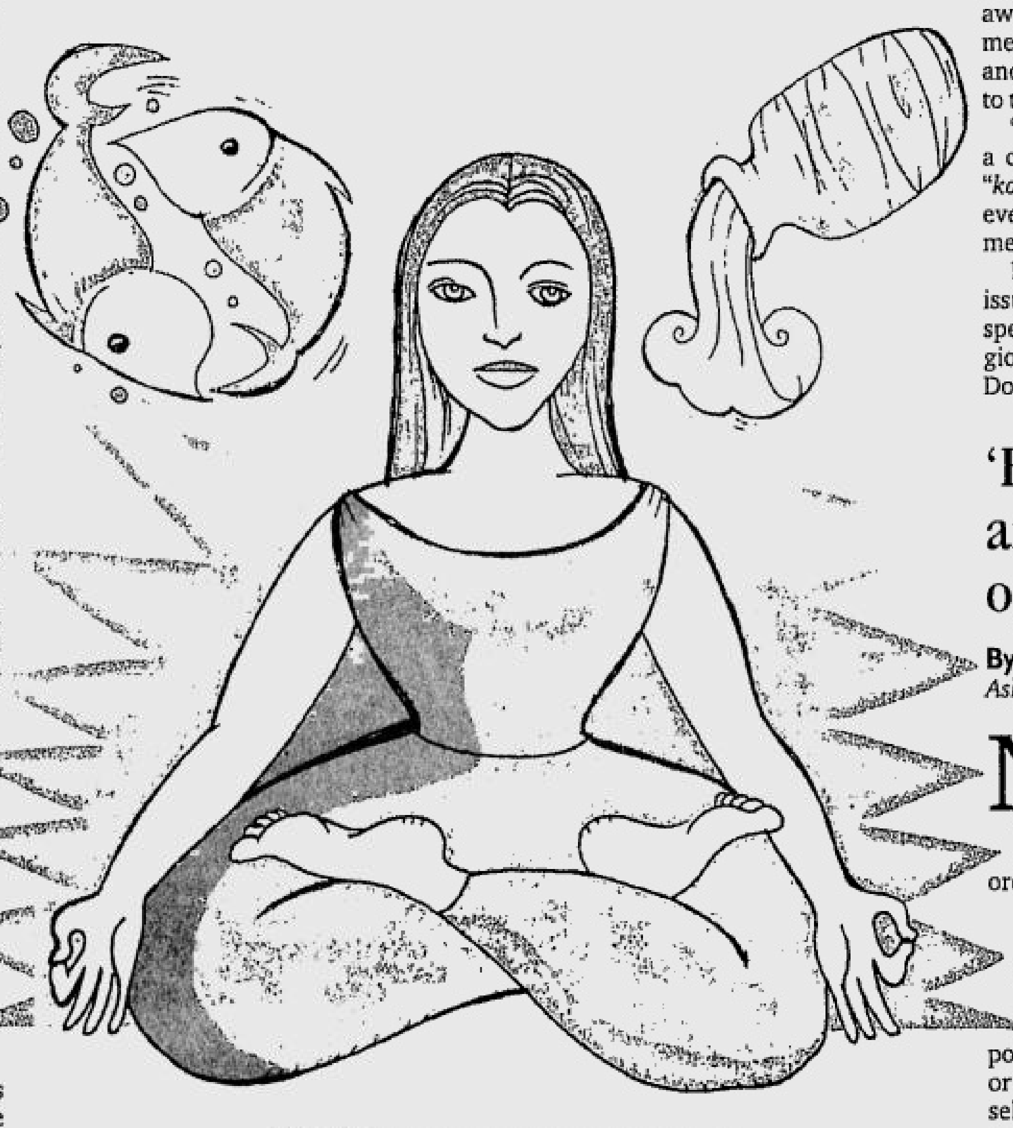
His words have become half-forgotten. They were not collected systematically. They were rewritten many times and were often misunderstood, wrongly explained, and used to exclude rather than to embrace all of God's creatures.

And now we have 60-odd pages written by a few versus three words with which Jesus Christ said volumes: "Love thy neighbor."

True compassion, love, and spirituality sees the sacredness in all beings at every moment. This teaching embraces and encourages man's unity in loving God in many diverse ways. It is the responsibility of the one in the know to be the servant of the one who does not know. As a Christian one must live that ideal and accommodate all those creatures that are divine, whether they are aware of it or not.

To illustrate, a thought on vegetarianism: How could St. Francis have talked to God's creatures if he went around eating them?

The purpose of life is to realize God here and now, rather than seeking out the ways in which our belief systems are divided.



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'Meditation strengthened my faith in God'

By Merle Pimentel
Organizational development and marketing consultant

FOR as long as the Church continues to serve its constituents with the highest moral standard and fulfills their spiritual needs, it shouldn't worry about New Age.

Many parts of the New Age lifestyle, vegetarianism for one, resonates really well with my family. Not only is it healthy; it is also good for our budget. It has effected protected us from many common illnesses, which translates to savings on doctors' fees and medicines.

My own experiences with the practice of meditation have been very effective in strengthening my faith in God and my resolve to live a life of peace, simplicity, and security.

'*Karma* boils down to the Golden Rule'

By Denise Lawrence
Meditation teacher for 28 years

FOR anyone whose experiences with his faith have been reassuring and beneficial, no knowledge or persuasion, old or new, need ever pose a threat.

There is a global religious "crisis" because we now have the means to check out one another's faith. Information is more readily available than it has ever been. We look here and there—it's a natural impulse. The world has been polarized along religious lines.

When members move away, an institution will, of course, be concerned. But at some point, most of those who find it necessary to "look around" are bound to return to their flock. Religious organizations should just ride this tide, and have absolute confidence in themselves and their members.

As for what is considered "New Age" these days: much of it is really old. Raja Yoga, which the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University teaches, is historically among the most ancient forms of yoga even in India where it comes from, a land with very old religious practices, indeed.

But some of the basic principles that make up the backbone of the study are shared by many other schools of thought, precisely because they are universal laws.

"*Karma*" literally translates to something quite neutral: action. But it has acquired all sorts of spiritual associations. My initial understanding of it came from the Bible: "As you sow, so shall you reap." I have since encountered more explanations, and still it boils down to The Golden Rule.

Right begets right; wrong begets wrong. If you do good, you get closer to God. If you do bad, you move away. You also get in trouble with others and give sorrow to yourself.

"Spirituality" is not a big word, either. It's just knowing ourselves as spirits, which is the truth. Many may have been taught that a human being "has" a soul. It's actually the other way around: we each have a body. "My hand, my foot..." Who is talking there? But we say, "I think." Again, who is talking?

"Meditation" is the simplest of all these words associated with New Age. Everybody meditates, whether or not he is aware of it. For students of Raja Yoga, meditation is contemplating the purity, and light of God, so they could draw these to themselves.

"Reincarnation" is a little tricky. But as a concept, it is very closely linked with "*karma.*" It accepts life as energy, which even science says cannot "die," but is merely transformed.

In any case, these things need not be an issue. Tolerance is as much a virtue as respect, that all leaders—and not just religious leaders—should offer one another. Doubt begets doubt.

'Fear divides and looks for opposition'

By Alexandra Carmona
Ashtanga yoga teacher

NO, the Church shouldn't be wary of "New Age." For Filipinos of my generation, the Church has always been an honorable institution, responsible for establishing justice and order in society.

We look to the Church for healing and help in times of crisis. We are schooled by Fathers and Mothers, Sisters and Brothers of the faith. Church leaders affect the tides of politics and the economy in high profile, or sometimes with an unseen hand. In itself or through groups associated with it, the Church provides immeasurable aid to the under-privileged. Every one of us personally knows of people who live life according to Christian values—priests, nuns, teachers, nurses, whole families "for Christ."

As individuals and as a society we learn by building upon previous knowledge. We carry with us the accumulation of past experiences. When we speak of "New Age" ideas falling upon the ears of the Filipino faithful, it is not at all like first writing on *tabula rasa.* All new beliefs are filtered through, and colored by, beliefs we already hold. Again and again, all the time and everyday, we choose what is right and what to believe. Good Christians upholding Christian values have nothing to fear from new ideas.

Now, it is true that there are bad ideas out there. One way to assess information, ideas and actions is by looking at basic intents or motives. Good ideas spring from love. Good deeds, good advice, good rules and policies all stem from the desire to love.

A great many bad ideas and actions stem from fear. Fear divides and looks for opposition.

'Some New Age groups are the new opium of the people'

NEW Age is a form of millenarianism (the anticipation of an imminent new era of rapid and radical change that will put an end to the present state of the world) that emerged in the 19th century but became prominent in the 20th century, and tends to combine apparently Christian terms and scientific vocabulary with a worldview derived from Hinduism, Buddhism, gnosticism, and other ancient non-Christian religions or philosophies.

Though New Age has some of its roots in beliefs and groups that emerged in the 19th century, it was toward the end of the 20th century—the end of the second millennium and the beginning of a new one—that it became widespread and gained many adherents.

New Age is a humanly attractive expression of millenarianism. Contrary to what some Adventist groups envision for the end of the millennium or age-a catastrophe in which only the members of their group will survive or be saved-New Age predicts a golden era for all humankind. New Age believes in the imminent beginning of a qualitatively different and better world than this one, an era of peace, love, and prosperity following the present situation of social dysfunction, conflict, and chaos. Nevertheless, New Age, though attractive, also has ambiguous, questionable, and even objectionable aspects.

Persons who are into New Age often believe in the prediction that an "Age of Aquarius" dominated by true science and worldwide humanism would succeed the "Age of Pisces," the violent era considered to have been engendered by Christianity. This belief is based on several suppositions. One supposition is that the spring equinox (March 21) regresses by one sign of the zodiac once in about every 2,100 years, passing toward the end of the 20th century from the sign of Pisces into that of Aquarius. Another supposition is that since Christianity is symbolized by a fish (icthys) (acronym for the Greek words for Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior), the sign of Pisces is identified with Christianity.

New Age groups tend to be gnostic. Gnostics emphasize knowledge or enlightenment that is esoteric (in the sense of being available only to the initiated), for attaining salvation, well-being, or integrity. The beliefs and practices of New Age groups incorporate in varying degrees and combinations archaic beliefs and occult practices coming from Asian, African, Native American, and other mythical, religious, philosophical and magical origins. These beliefs and practices include karmic retribution, reincarnation, psychic powers, nature lore, and at times, even witchcraft. In particular New Age groups, elements of Hinduism, Buddhism, Sufism, kabbalah, pantheism, spiritism, and numerology may be prominent.

Characteristic concerns of New Age include ecology, planetary healing, holistic health, self-improvement, and the rights of women, minorities, and animals. New Age groups tend to favor nonconventional or "alternative" health care modalities, such as acupuncture, biofeedback, herbal medicine, hypnosis, massage, pranic healing, organic gardening, vegetarianism, therapy with crystals, colors and aromas, and so forth. New Age groups are often fond of psychological typing of persons through such tools as astrology and the enneagram. This is not to say that anyone who has these concerns or favors these ideas or practices is a New Ager. It is nevertheless true that New Agers tend to be interested in or to promote various combinations of these concerns, these ideas or practices.

There is an increasingly widespread commercialization of New Age teachings and practices, aided by the rapid advances in communication and marketing techniques. Very noticeable is the multiplication of bookstores, specialty shops, courses and workshops, films, television programs, and even "spiritual retreats" that promote the ideas, values, and practices of New Age.

It is important for Filipino Catholic Christians to know about New Age because in the Philippines, New Age groups are emerging as a serious challenge to Christianity, especially but not only among the middle class and the wealthy. Some New Age groups are especially dangerous because they are deceiving, undermining Christianity from within by using apparently Christian symbols and vocabulary (such as "God" and "Christ"), but with non-Christian and even anti-Christian content and meaning. This is in contrast to belief systems such as Hinduism and Buddhism that from their vocabulary are immediately clearly seen as contrary to and distinct from Christianity.

The problem posed to Catholic Christian faith by New Age is not trivial. In some traditionally Catholic Christian countries very large proportions of the population hold some New Age beliefs incompatible with Christian faith. For example, with regard to belief in reincarnation among the population, statistics show 24 percent in Spain as of 1995, and 19 percent in Italy as of 1998. In the Philippines, anecdotal evidence shows an increased prevalence of belief in reincarnation, at least among the wealthy and the middle class.

Just as serious a problem in a country like the Philippines, which needs radical societal transformation according to the standards of social justice, is the fact that New Age groups tend to offer their adepts and neophytes a "soft transcendence." By the latter is meant a state of psychological calmness or sense of fulfillment or exaltation, without the need for profound moral conversion and serious effort to transform interpersonal, social, and environmental reality for the better. In this way some New Age groups are becoming the new "opium of the people." In contrast, in its most authentic and best developed forms, Christianity proposes a "hard transcendence," a challenging way of life, requiring radical moral conversion to God and sustained effort to transform intrapersonal, interpersonal, social and environmental reality according to God's life-giving and liberating purposes.

(*Excerpts from the "Primer on New Age," which was prepared for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines by the Philippine Province of the Society of Jesus*)

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Ex-Iraqi minister turned over to Marines

DOHA, Qatar—Iraqi police arrested Saddam Hussein's former finance minister and turned him over to the US Marines, US military officials said Saturday.

Hikmat Mizban Ibrahim al-Azzawi, who also served as a deputy prime minister, was apprehended Friday in Baghdad, the US Central Command in Qatar said in a statement.

Al-Azzawi, 70, was the eight of diamonds on Central Command's deck of 52 playing cards of wanted Iraqi officials. Three others were added to the wanted list though new cards were not created to represent them. Saddam is the ace of spades.

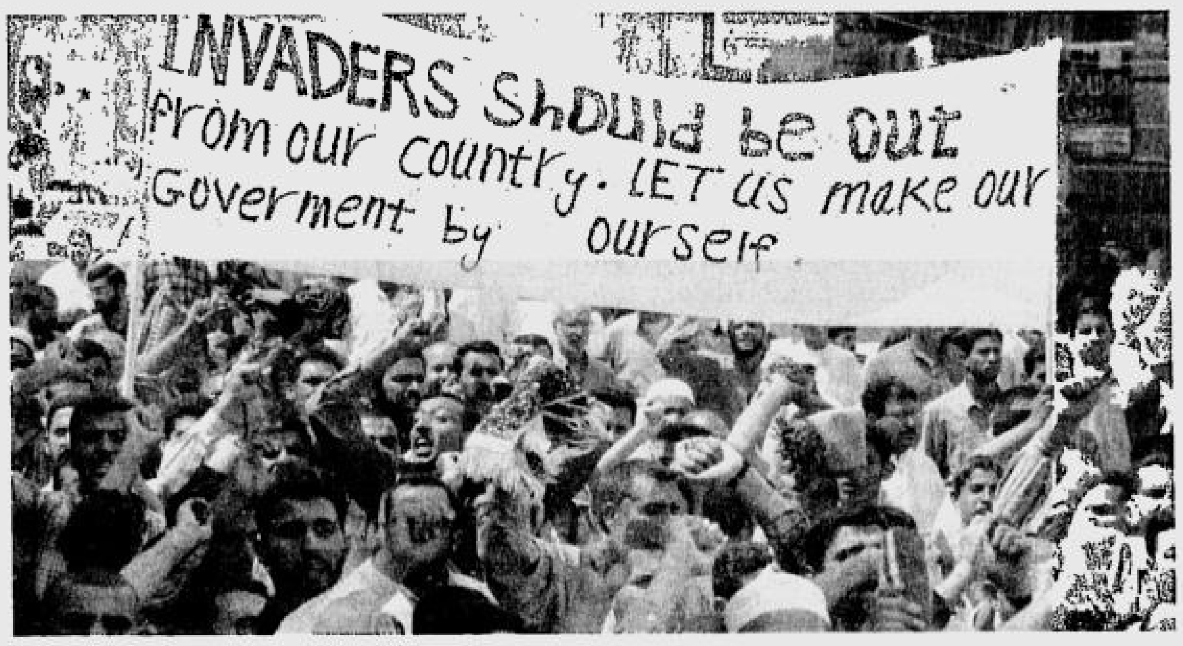
The former minister is the fifth wanted regime figure to be taken into custody.

Saddam's top science adviser, Lt. Gen. Amer al-Saadi, turned himself in to US forces on April 12.

Last Sunday, US forces nabbed Saddam's half brother and personal adviser—Watban Ibrahim Hasan al-Tikriti. Another half brother, Barzan Ibrahim Hasan al-Tikriti, was arrested by US Special Forces on Thursday. *AP*

ARAB MESSAGE TO AMERICA

'Get out of Iraq; keep off oil'



IRAQI protesters shout anti-American slogans during a demonstration in Baghdad on April 18. AFP

BAGHDAD—Iraq's neighbors, led by Saudi Arabia, told the United States on Saturday to get out of the country and keep its hands off Iraqi oil.

Ministers of Iraq's immediate neighbors—Turkey, Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Syria, as well as Egypt and Bahrain —said the United States had to restore order and then leave so that Iraqis could form their own government.

They issued a joint statement in Riyadh opposing a US call to lift UN sanctions on Iraq and said Baghdad must be allowed to have a government of its own first.

The ministers said they wanted the United Nations to play a central role in postwar Iraq, echoing similar demands made by European Union leaders at their summit in Athens on Thursday. Among those who attended the EU summit was Washington's key ally Britain.

"The Iraqi people should administer and govern their country by themselves, and any exploitation of their natural resources should be in conformity with the will of the legitimate Iraqi government and its people," Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal said early on Saturday, reading from the statement.

The late night meeting was held against the backdrop of protests in Baghdad as thousands of demonstrators poured out of mosques on Friday demanding the United States leave the country.

"If what they (United States) intend is the exploitation of Iraqi oil, it will not have any legitimate basis," Faisal said.

Washington has called for a quick end to the 12-year-old UN economic sanctions, imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, so that oil sales can fund reconstruction.

Iraq has the second largest proven oil reserves after Saudi Arabia. Riyadh and Kuwait are concerned that their revenues might be hit if Iraqi oil is once again sold on the open market.

Lifting sanctions threatens to trigger another diplomatic tussle as it raises the issue of who controls Iraq's oil sales—it is now the United Nations—and so effectively runs the country.

Calls for a UN role in Iraq cut no ice with pro-US Iraqi politician Ahmad Chalabi, newly returned from exile, who said in Baghdad on Friday that the United Nations lacked the capability and credibility to take on a leadership role.

"The moral imperative is on the side of the United States, and the Iraqi people will accept a leadership role for the United States in this process," said Chalabi, seen by many analysts as Washington's choice to lead Iraq.

Chalabi said he did not want a post in an interim Iraqi government but that left open the question of whether he would stand as a candidate if the country held elections.

Chalabi, head of the Iraqi National Congress, was the first major exile politician to reach Baghdad since Saddam was ousted. The US military flew Chalabi to Iraq nearly two weeks ago.

His belief that Iraqis would accept only a US leadership role was at odds with feelings on the streets of Baghdad on Friday when Muslims poured on to the streets, calling for an Islamic state to be established. It was the biggest protest since US forces ended Saddam's harsh three-decade rule on April 9. *Reuters*

Mystery of Saddam's fate deepens

DOHA, Qatar—It's still not known if Saddam Hussein is alive or dead, in exile or in hiding, and the emergence of two new tapes has deepened the mystery.

The theory that Saddam was killed in an April 7 bombing by coalition forces suffered a blow with the broadcast Friday of a videotape purporting to show him alive two days later and an audiotape with a voice that sounds like his.

Some experts believe the deposed Iraqi leader could be using his vast wealth and the extensive connections cultivated over decades at the helm of a police state to stay safe in his own country.

"It's possible he could be hiding among his loyalists," said Anthony Cordesman, a Middle East expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "It's possible he may try to change his appearance."

However, Cordesman notes: "All of this is just pure guess work. Until you see indicators and real evidence, I'm not sure the Mideast needs another conspiracy theory."

Abu Dhabi TV, which broadcast the tapes Friday, says the source that provided them said they were made April 9, two days after US forces bombed the building Saddam was thought to have entered in Baghdad's upscale al-Mansour neighborhood.

US defense officials said Friday they had not fully evaluated the tapes.

In the video, a man resembling Saddam is shown waving to a cheering crowd in Baghdad's Azamiyah neighborhood. In a separate tape recording, a voice sounding like Saddam's warns that conquered people will "eventually triumph over invaders."

Abu Dhabi TV did not reveal its source, and Saddam is long believed to have employed doubles to fool potential assassins. The tapes bore no visible time stamps. *AP*

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Hong Kong reports 12 more SARS deaths

HONG KONG—Twelve more SARS patients died in Hong Kong, pushing its toll to 81, officials said Saturday following a largely symbolic cleanup organized by government leaders struggling to restore the territory's badly tarnished image.

The 12 deaths were the most in a single day in Hong Kong since the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome flared last month. Thirty-one new cases were reported Saturday, bringing the total number of infections in the territory to 1,358.

Seven of the new fatalities were elderly people who had other chronic illnesses, health officials said. But the rest were younger, fitter patients, joining a group of SARS victims whose recent deaths have raised worries about how deadly the little-understood disease can be.

Earlier, Hong Kong's health secretary used a bleached mop and rags to help scrub down a vegetable market during a massive cleanup staged by officials and volunteers in hopes of helping Hong Kong bounce back.

"Personal hygiene and environmental hygiene are two important objectives," Dr. Yeoh Eng-kiong said. One surprised stall owner said she'd seen Yeoh many times on television during the SARS crisis but that the mop-wielding health chief looked skinny in person—perhaps from working too hard.

Yeoh wore no surgical mask as he cleaned the floor and wiped the sides of an escalator, but many others in the cleanup did, hoping to avoid SARS.

Environment Secretary Sarah Liao drank tea at a Chinese restaurant at Telford Gardens, a housing development that has been infected, to show it was safe.

Elsewhere, thousands of volunteers, from housewives to government officials, fanned out to clean housing, restaurants and shopping malls.

Hong Kong's image and economy have taken a bad beating from the SARS outbreak that has severely hit business, tourism and the territory's international reputation.

Air travelers leaving Hong Kong spread the disease to three countries that have now suffered SARS fatalities—Canada, Singapore and Vietnam. The World Health Organization has warned people against traveling to Hong Kong.

Yeoh and several doctors who have been tackling the outbreak met with reporters early Saturday afternoon and repeated assurances that 95 percent of SARS patients fully recover. Another 41 people have been discharged from hospitals, officials said later Saturday, bringing that total to 363.

The majority of those who have died—68 percent—suffered from other chronic illnesses such as heart disease or diabetes, said Dr. Yu Wai-cho, a hospital consultant. Almost a third were over 75, Yu said, explaining a breakdown of SARS deaths reported through Tuesday.

Officials were monitoring all buildings where SARS cases have been reported to try to avoid further big outbreaks, said Health Director Dr. Margaret Chan.

At least 326 people were infected in an outbreak at one apartment complex, the Amoy Gardens. *AP*

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ARLO LUIS R. SALVADOR II, M.D.
General Medicine-Psychotherapy
& Basic Sports Physician

Q MACROXAM PATCH? Ano ba 'yon?

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Q Wala bang side effect ang MACROXAM?

A **MACROXAM greatly minimizes the side effect of liver and kidney damage that usually accompanies orally taken NSAIDs. This is because the plasma concentration of MACROXAM is 50 times less than the oral form of Piroxicam. Skin irritation is a possibility for those with hypersensitive skin.**

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Brand X Oral NSAID	P 38.00 x 2*	P228.00	12 hours	—
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*assumes dose of two tablets per day

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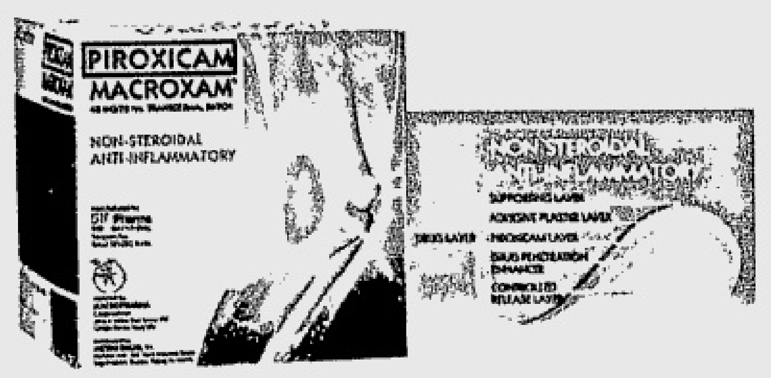

WORKERS wearing masks against the deadly SARS virus, clean a playground at a Hong Kong housing estate on April 19. Hundreds of thousands of people took part in an unprecedented city-wide cleanup campaign, as Hong Kong battled to halt the spread of pneumonia-like illness. AP

China PM threatens to punish officials who hide SARS data

BEIJING—Backing up a stern warning by top Communist Party leaders, Premier Wen Jiabao has demanded timely and honest reporting of SARS cases in face of allegations that China has been hiding the real number of infections.

"Anyone who covers up SARS cases or delays the release of information will be harshly punished," Wen was quoted as saying in Saturday's China Daily, a state-run English language newspaper.

Wen spoke while on a SARS prevention inspection of Beijing's kindergartens and schools on Friday. His tour was on the front page of most newspapers Saturday, many of which carried the same photo of the premier smiling at a group of children.

The warning echoed one by President Hu Jintao and the party's Standing Committee, its ruling inner circle, earlier this week which urged "immediate action" to control the spread of severe acute respiratory syndrome and cautioned against covering up the real number of cases.

The communist bureaucracy's secrecy and seeming avoidance of bad news have been blamed for China's slow response to pleas for information and cooperation in fighting SARS.

Earlier this week, World Health Organization investigators said there were unreported cases at hospitals in Beijing run by the secretive military. A WHO official also said the capital city may have had as many as 200 probable cases of SARS since March—five times the official number of 37.

On Saturday, one more death was reported in the western province of Sichuan, bringing China's total up to 67 out of almost 1,500 reported cases. At least 173 people have died around the world, mostly in Asia.

There is no cure for the deadly flu-like disease, which is believed to have originated in southern China.

The official Xinhua News Agency reported Saturday that the health ministry had also banned medical institutions in China from refusing admittance to SARS patients and suspected cases. The institution and its staff will face legal proceedings if they do so, Xinhua reported. *AP*

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SARS is worst crisis Singapore has faced

SINGAPORE—Singapore's Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong on Saturday said the outbreak of SARS could be "the worst crisis our country has faced."

Goh also announced new stricter measures to prevent those under home quarantine for severe acute respiratory syndrome from flouting the orders to stay home, including fines and prison terms beginning from next week.

"If we fail to contain SARS in Singapore it may well become the worst crisis that our country has faced," Goh said at a press conference.

"We are fighting a common enemy in SARS and this common enemy is invisible so it is a very tough fight," he said. "Invisible like a biological terrorist waiting to pounce on you if you are not careful."

Sixteen people have died of SARS in Singapore and there have been 172 reported cases of the deadly pneumonia-like illness.

The outbreak has also dealt a heavy blow to the island nation's economy. Goh estimated the virus has cost the city-state 1.5 billion Singapore dollars (US$847 million) so far.

"SARS will knock you backward, it may even kill you but I can tell you SARS can kill the economy and all of us will be killed by the collapsing economy," he said.

Goh said the laws would be amended in Parliament next week to allow officials to fine or imprison those who disobey quarantine orders without having to first take them to court.

"In Singapore's context, like it or not, people understand fines," Goh said.

He said the move was intended to "show Singaporeans they must take quarantine seriously for their own good, for the greater good of Singapore."

Isolation wards would be used in prison to ward quarantine breakers.

"We don't want to do it, we want to avoid it," he said but added imprisonment would be enforced "if necessary."

Some 12 people have broken home quarantine so far in Singapore, prompting the government to use cameras and electronic wrist tags to monitor them remotely. There are 444 people under quarantine in the city state.

The strict measures are needed to address the "crisis of fear" arising from the SARS outbreak and to raise confidence in the safety of Singapore as a destination for "tourists, investors and businessmen," Goh said. *AP*

Nokor claims confuse US, Sokor

SOUTH Korean protesters bring down a cut-out statue of the late North Korean leader Kim Il-sung during a rally against North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons program in Seoul on April 19. REUTERS

SEOUL—North Korea on Saturday proposed high-level talks with rival South Korea, after throwing planned negotiations with the United States into doubt with confusing claims about its progress in reprocessing fuel for possible nuclear weapons.

The perplexing signals and statements from North Korea left officials in Seoul and Washington scrambling to figure out the isolated communist regime's intentions.

The key question: Is North Korea trying to arm itself with nuclear bombs, or are the claims just a way of escalating tension before the crucial talks with US negotiators?

"We think North Korea is trying to gain leverage ahead of the talks," South Korea's top security adviser, Ra Jong-il, was quoted as saying by his office.

North Korea agreed last week to discuss its suspected nuclear programs with Washington and Beijing, dropping its demand for one-on-one talks with the United States.

It would be the first opportunity for substantive US discussions with North Korea since last October when Washington said Pyongyang admitted having a uranium-based nuclear weapons program.

But in a move that could endanger the talks, North Korea said Friday it was reprocessing thousands of spent nuclear fuel rods at its main nuclear complex in Yongbyon—enough to produce several nuclear bombs.

The North's KCNA news agency, in an English-language report, quoted a foreign ministry spokesperson as saying "we are successfully reprocessing more than 8,000 spent fuel rods at the final phase."

US and South Korean officials said there was no proof that reprocessing had began, and suggested the report may have mistranslated the vaguely worded Korean version. They said the Korean version could be interpreted as saying it would begin reprocessing.

Yet, the claims spiked tension as intelligence experts have said the process will enable North Korea to produce enough plutonium to build several nuclear bombs within months. Washington believes the North already has one or two bombs.

The North Korean spokesperson also emphasized the importance that the North places on a military deterrence to stave off a possible US attack in the aftermath of the war against Iraq. North Korea has been accusing Washington of planning an invasion.

US President George W. Bush, who has dubbed North Korea as part of an "axis of evil" with Iran and Iraq, said he was seeking a diplomatic solution, but had not ruled out military options.

North Korea has never admitted or denied having nuclear bombs, but has said it has the right to develop such weapons.

Washington has said it would regard any move by North Korea to reprocess spent fuel rods "as a very serious matter," but there was no immediate indication that the Beijing talks would be suspended.

"Once we have a clear sense of the facts and the views of our friends and allies, we'll make a decision about how to proceed," White House spokesperson Claire Buchan said.

North Korea traditionally makes confrontational moves ahead of critical negotiations. *AP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Not ground for divorce

ROME—Does your wife make your life hell, humiliating you in front of friends and family, insulting you day after day and even berating you for not giving her pleasure in bed? Italy's highest court has ruled that this is not exceptional, and if you divorce your wife you must still pay her alimony, according to a report in the daily Il Messaggero. The Court of Cassation has ruled that Antonio Giulia, a Naples magistrate who left his wife after 10 years of such treatment, was nevertheless at fault for ending the marriage and should pay up, the paper said. "That woman massacred me for 10 years," a bitter Giulia said after the ruling. His ex-wife, Maria, argued that her behavior was normal in a married couple and she could not be blamed for a few "outbursts." The court agreed, but Giulia was seething. "Not a day went by without her humiliating me in front of everybody. She would even scream at me that I no longer satisfied her sexually. And now I have to support her?" *Reuters*

$1 billion in gold

BAGHDAD—US Marines with machine guns and tanks stood watch over what they estimated was $1 billion in gold—safeguarding bank vaults that withstood direct rocket-propelled grenade hits by robbers determined to fight their way in. "Fort Knox doesn't have security like this," Marine Staff Sgt. Jack Coughlin said in a bank lobby Friday, as shots rang out outside—US snipers dealing with robbers armed with AK-47s still roaming Baghdad's pillaged banking district. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a US Army patrol stumbled on an estimated $656 million in US currency, the Los Angeles Times reported Friday night on its website. The cash, which was believed to be authentic, was found in a Tigris River neighborhood where senior Baath party and Republican Guard officials lived, according to the Times. "I need to call my wife and tell her we were multimillionaires for about three seconds," Army Staff Sgt. Kenneth Buff said as he stood next to a box stuffed with sealed bundles of currency. *AP*

Grandiose biblical play

MEXICO CITY—Sweat poured from the head of Jesus as he lugged a 90-kg cross through kilometers of streets as men jeered and shoved him from the sidewalks and a crown of thorns pierced his scalp. It was a moment of pride and spiritual fulfillment that Javier Romero Perez had been looking forward to for months. The 21-year-old computer student was chosen out of thousands of volunteers to play the main part in Mexico's biggest theatrical and religious event, the Passion of Christ. Officials say it is the 160th year that the streets, plazas and parks of Mexico City's tough Iztapalapa borough have hosted the grandiose biblical play, though there are references to earlier passion plays in Mexico City going back to the 16th century. Despite sweltering temperatures, an estimated 800,000 people watched 4,500 actors perform, said Federico Peña, Iztapalapa's security coordinator. *AP*

Bloody Good Friday

BOGOTA—Three Colombians, including a 14-year-old boy and a soldier, were killed on Friday when suspected Marxist rebels opened fire into a crowd at a Catholic ceremony reenacting the crucifixion of Christ. The shooting erupted during a morning Good Friday ceremony in the coffee growing town of El Dolores, about 200 km southeast of Bogota. Another three people, including a young boy, were wounded. Some were hit by bullets in their legs. "The procession was just starting at the park, when we heard the gunfire. Everybody started running, and the boy, the tall one, he was killed," said a witness, who asked to identified only as Maria. She said the gunmen wore civilian clothes and appeared to be targeting police and soldiers protecting the crowd. No arrests were made. *Reuters*

First train to Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India—With a promise to build Kashmir's first rail link, India's prime minister was set to inaugurate a railroad bridge in the Himalayan state where a 13-year insurgency has sapped resources and pushed back development. The train project is among the initiatives Atal Bihari Vajpayee is announcing on his two-day trip to Kashmir, which ends Saturday. He is focusing on jobs, electricity and other local issues rather than the five-decade enmity with neighboring Pakistan—blamed by New Delhi for the Islamic insurgency here that has left more than 61,000 people dead. This is a marked shift from Vajpayee's visit last year when he barely interacted with ordinary Kashmirs. On Friday, he addressed 35,000 people at a stadium in Srinagar, the first time in 16 years an Indian prime minister has addressed a rally in the summer capital of Indian-controlled Kashmir—where secessionism has many supporters and there is widespread distrust of [illegible] *AP*

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Flagellants get blessings from Lenten ritual

By Romulo Ponte
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

PANGIL, Laguna—Juling Real, 49, married with two kids of Barangay Isla here said his ritual of punishing himself through flagellation every Good Friday for 20 years has earned for him and his family blessings of good health and economic benefits.

Sporting a mask, Real was among more than 150 flagellants here on Good Friday whose fresh dark red blood oozing from their skins splattered the roads, walls, parked vehicles and any object on the byways as they whipped themselves with iron whip-ends or chains as they walked barefoot in the streets of Pangil.

Lito Corpuz, electronics technician and musician, said what the INQUIRER had just witnessed was a common sight in Pangil on Good Friday.

Town Mayor Sergio Manzana, assisted by police officers, directed the traffic to ensure order and smooth flow of the "funeral" procession of the "dead" Jesus, which took place for about two hours.

Majority wore various kinds of masks. The penitents' ages ranged from 14 years up to 50 years old.

Real said he never got infected because of his strong faith in God. His open wounds caused by metal whipping miraculously healed upon dipping into the river.

His 5-year-old and 3-year-old children have been enjoying good health as a result of his self-sacrifice, he said.

Atoy Sampaga, 39, has been a flagellant for 21 years and his intention for this year is for his reconciliation with his estranged wife.

He said God had been kind to him and his family in the past. "My children were very sickly. This prompted me to join the penitents every year to offer sacrifices to God," Sampaga said.

4 fires hit Banahaw; 1 dead

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—Four separate forest fires believed caused by burning candles left by some overzealous pilgrims, hit Mt. Banahaw last Holy Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, according to the municipal environment official of Dolores town.

Manny Calayag, Dolores municipal environment and natural resources officer, also said an unidentified male devotee suffered a fatal heart stroke and died, while an undetermined number of pilgrims were injured.

"Our medical and rescue teams gave all the medical attention to the victim. Unfortunately, he was pronounced dead on arrival at the nearest hospital," Calayag told the INQUIRER.

He was at Mt. Banahaw with a team of local officials and environmentalist groups conducting an initial assessment of the mountain's situation, as throngs of pilgrims started to descend after their Holy Week stay in different mountain sites.

Lawyer Asis Perez, director of Tanggol Kalikasan in Southern Tagalog, who was with Calayag during the interview, identified the heart attack victim as Urbano Galero, a barangay captain from Perez, Quezon and a Mt. Banahaw devotee. But Perez said the death was not related to the mountain fires.

Calayag revealed that based on their initial investigation, "overzealous pilgrims just left their still-burning candles without realizing that the dry surroundings posed a serious fire hazard."

He declined to give an estimate of the total damage, saying they were still conducting investigation.

Mt. Banahaw, which occupies part of Quezon and Laguna provinces, is considered a sacred mountain by thousands of devotees, especially during Lent.

Calayag identified the burnt sites as portions of the "Kapatagan" and "Unang Dungaw" atop the mountain, and pilgrims' spots in Barangays Sta. Lucia and Kinabuhayan.

It has been the practice of devotees to light up candles in various spots in the area.

Calayag said some mountain visitors suffered slight injuries during the commotion at the height of the blazes but were immediately attended by several government and volunteer medical teams.

On Wednesday, two Air Force pilots were also slightly injured when their Bell 205 rescue helicopter crashed while helping quell another forest fire in the area.

The chopper reportedly encountered strong winds as it approached the burning area, causing a power failure, according to reports.

Calayag said more could have been wounded if not for the decisive action and efforts to control the blazes by several mountain fire brigades mostly composed of different volunteer mountaineers' groups.

He said the number of this year's pilgrims exceeded their expectations.

"A serious overcrowding could have taken place if the local government did not close for two days the traditional mountain trail at the height of typhoon Amang's warning," he said, adding that the routes are now open for mountaineers.

SARS SCARE

Isolation ordered for those in contact with patient

DAGUPAN CITY—Despite autopsy findings that a woman from Pangasinan had died of bacterial pneumonia and not of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) at the San Lazaro Hospital, health officials in Pangasinan have ordered the isolation of the people, including seven children, who got in contact with the patient.

Nemesia Mejia, provincial health officer, said three of the children were left in the house when their parents took the 46-year-old patient, a nursing attendant who just arrived from Canada, to a hospital in Villasis town and later to San Lazaro.

But Mejia declined to identify the patient, saying she came from a central Pangasinan town. The patient stayed in the house, which is owned by her brother, after she arrived from Canada.

"The three children—aged 9, 11 and 16—are talking with their parents through mobile phones, and they were instructed to stay inside their house," Mejia said.

The provincial health office also gave the children masks and chlorine solution that they would use to disinfect their house.

"We were ready to take the children to the hospital when we learned that one of them had slight fever. But after we checked them all up, they had normal temperature," Mejia said.

She said two other houses, which the patient visited before she fell ill, have also been isolated. The houses are those of the patient's brother and his wife and their four children aged 3, 4, 7 and 11; and of the patient's parents.

The patient's body was expected to be taken to her hometown on April 16 in a sealed coffin.

Epidemiologist Revelyn Cayabyab of the regional health office said while the woman did not die of SARS, health authorities "are taking all the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of the deadly disease in the community."

On Monday night, Mejia and Cayabyab conducted a community assembly at the patient's hometown to inform residents on what to do when there is a suspected SARS case in their area.

"We tried to allay the fears of the residents who are getting worried because of the reports," Mejia said.

Mejia has formed three crisis management teams for eastern, central and western Pangasinan. Each team is headed by a doctor.

"They are coordinating with barangay health workers (BHWs) in each town. The BHWs have been advised to monitor all *balikbayan* in their villages and to immediately report to the team or the rural health units if a balikbayan has a fever. But if the balikbayan does not develop fever during the first 14 days of his or her arrival in the country, then it means he or she is free of the virus," Mejia said.

But if a balikbayan runs a high fever, the team will be sent to his or her house and conduct tests. If the patient has coughs, then he or she will be immediately taken to the Ilocos Regional Training and Medical Center in San Fernando City. *Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PHILIPPINE SENATE

In view of the tightness of the schedule for audience of most of the Honorable Senators, we have to resort to this open letter in order to convey our opposition to Senate Bill No. 2338 which is the Senate version of the Lower-House-Approved Bill No. 4542 authored/sponsored by Congresswoman Josephine Y. Ramirez Sato, i.e. "An Act Converting the Pedro T. Mendiola Sr. Memorial Technological and Polytechnic College, San Jose, Occidental Mindoro, into a state college," which, "eventually … would absorb all the other schools…" (p. 695, Senate Journal October 24, 2002, underscoring supplied). We earnestly request the Honorable Senate to disapprove said SBN 2338 or return the same to the Senate Education Committee, for these reasons:

1. The Occidental Mindoro National College (OMNC) in San Jose, Occidental Mindoro, was created as a state college on June 24, 1983 by Batas Pambansa Blg. 531, and has been operating as such until today, governed by its own, separate, distinct, independent, autonomous Board of Trustees (BOT) pursuant to said BP# 531 and so OMNC satisfies all the requisites of the definition of state college under CHED M.O.# 3 Rule II (b) and (c) issued pursuant to Sec. 15, RA 8292.

2. The Honorable Senate was fed with the FALSE information "that the proposed state college would be the FIRST in Occidental Mindoro" (p. 694, Senate Journal, October 24, 2002, underscoring and emphasis supplied)

3. Pursuant to an existing strong national policy as recommended by EDCOM and PCER, mandating integration of government-funded institutions of higher education and discouraging creation of new state college enunciated in RA 8292, PTMSMTPC, with Dr. Iluminada G. Remo as BOT designated College Administrator as well as Occidental Mindoro Polytechnic College both located in San Jose, Occidental Mindoro has been integrated/absorbed by OMNC.

4. Substantial expenses of the people's money will be avoided if OMNC shall commence and maintain the courses envisioned by SBN 2338. The OMNC's experience, income, physical plant, institutional facilities and faculty capabilities, i.e., specialization, foreign studies and scholarships, MA's and PhD's, having been, as ever, far superior than the former PTMSMTPC, one of the CSI's absorbed by OMNC as the host SUC. The existence of two (2) state and one (1) private (Divine World College) institutions of higher education in Occidental Mindoro, with a population of 380,250 only is an extremely wasteful luxury.

5. No official invitation was ever received regarding any hearing by any competent official of OMNC as an existing State College in the same municipality regarding the filing of the bill from any Committee of both chambers.

6. Not a single item for Public Elementary School Teacher was created under 2003 General Appropriations Act. One of the reasons for this, according to Hon. Secretary Edilberto de Jesus of DepEd, stated by him during a television interview together with Cong. Jesli A. Lapuz, is that a substantial amount is allocated to SUCs from the entire appropriation for all levels of education mandated in Sub-section 5, Sec. 5, Article XIV of the Philippine Constitution

(The above Open Letter has been signed by OMNC's: SUC President, 3 V-Pres., Adm. Off., 7 Dept. Chairs, 4 Campus Coordinators, 5 Section Chiefs, 165 Teaching Staff, 35 Non-Teaching Staff, President-Federation of Faculty Associations, President-Federation of Supreme Student Councils and 917 College Students.)

SOFRONIO S. SANQUI
SUC President

Mabalot
CLEMENCIA G. MABALOT
President, Federation of the
Faculty Associations

JAIRUS A. CRISTALINO
President, Federation of the
Supreme Student Councils

ADVT

MV Maria Carmela sea tragedy remembered

FAMILIES, friends of the victims and survivors of the sunken **MV Maria Carmela** commemorate the first anniversary of the tragedy with offerings of prayers, flowers and candles. DELFIN MALLARI JR.

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—There were no more wails of anguish from survivors and orphans of the victims of the MV Maria Carmela sea tragedy on April 11 as they commemorated the loss of their loved ones a year ago.

Only a collective impish cry for justice reverberated through the calm blue waters.

Their lonesome streamer reads: "*Katarungan Bisan Kindat Lang.*" Or in the more candid translation of advocates, it simply means, "*Kahit konting pagtingin para sa katarungan* (Even just a short glimpse of justice)."

"That's what we need from the management of Montenegro Shipping Lines Inc, a little concern is all we ask," lamented Rhodora Rey, one of the survivors and president of the MV Carmela Movement Inc. (MCMI), an organization of the survivors, relatives and friends of victims of the tragedy.

The Maria Carmela caught fire in the morning of April 11, 2002, while sailing off Pagbilao, Quezon, some 15 km from the Dalahican port in Lucena. At least 42 passengers from Masbate died and an undetermined number has remained missing up to this day.

After a Mass held at the port, a small group on an outrigger banca sailed toward the site of the accident and offered prayers. Flowers and candles were placed on several Styrofor boards that slowly drifted with the gentle waves.

"We love you all. We will never stop till you get the justice you all deserve," murmured one of the members of the delegation.

Rey said the management of Montenegro had yet to face them to answer queries raised by the victims' families and survivors. Only company representatives "full of alibis and excuses" had met them, she said.

After a year, most of the insurance claims of the victims' relatives have yet to be processed, she said.

Alan Antonio, who lost two family members in the blaze and vice president of the group, said "Montenegro should at least give us some courtesy of concern." Only four or five claimants had collected insurance claims, he said.

Choy Gutierrez, a Montenegro official, explained that the insurance claims could not be processed because of lack of documents. "As far as the company obligation is concerned, we've been fully consistent (in the) fulfillment (of) our commitment. We even coordinated our effort with the provincial governor of Masbate."

Rey said she had already coordinated with the National Insurance Commission and the Maritime Industry Authority in securing the claims. She said she had been assured that all claims would be settled upon completion of the legal requirements and "provided that the victims were included in the passenger manifest."

Members of the group have described that provision as a contentious issue between them and the Montenegro management. When the accident occurred, the ship had 324 passengers, 81 of whom were not in the manifest, mostly children.

"However, there are claimants who vowed to still press charges against those responsible for the tragedy (because) no amount of money can compensate for the loss of their loved ones," Rey said.

The MCMI members made it clear that their campaign was not just about financial compensation.

"We are also bent on improving the sea transportation system in the country. In Masbate shipping, there are significant changes now [with regard to] the overcrowding of passengers," Rey said. Child passengers are now also listed in the manifest as paying passengers, which she considered a substantial improvement in the system.

But she pointed out that there were more rooms for improvement in the compliance of shipping companies with maritime laws and regulations.

"The system needs drastic changes to get rid of the breeding ground of corruption along its corridor, nooks and crannies," Rey said as she noted the prevalent "fake licenses" among the ship's crews.

Rey said two weeks ago, Lucena Judge Abelio Martin had already issued warrants for the arrest of Godofredo Erandio, Pablito Masangkay, Rodel Azuero, Blas Sevilla, Ricardo Moreno, Mario Isla and Jose Maria Reyes, staff and crewmen of the ill-fated ship, on charges of reckless imprudence resulting in multiple homicide, multiple serious injuries and damage to property.

She said the Coast Guard officers in Masbate and Lucena, and even the Montenegro officials and its general manager, were likewise held liable for the accident.

The company permit to ply the Lucena-Masbate route has been suspended since November. Viva Shipping Lines now serve the Masbateños.

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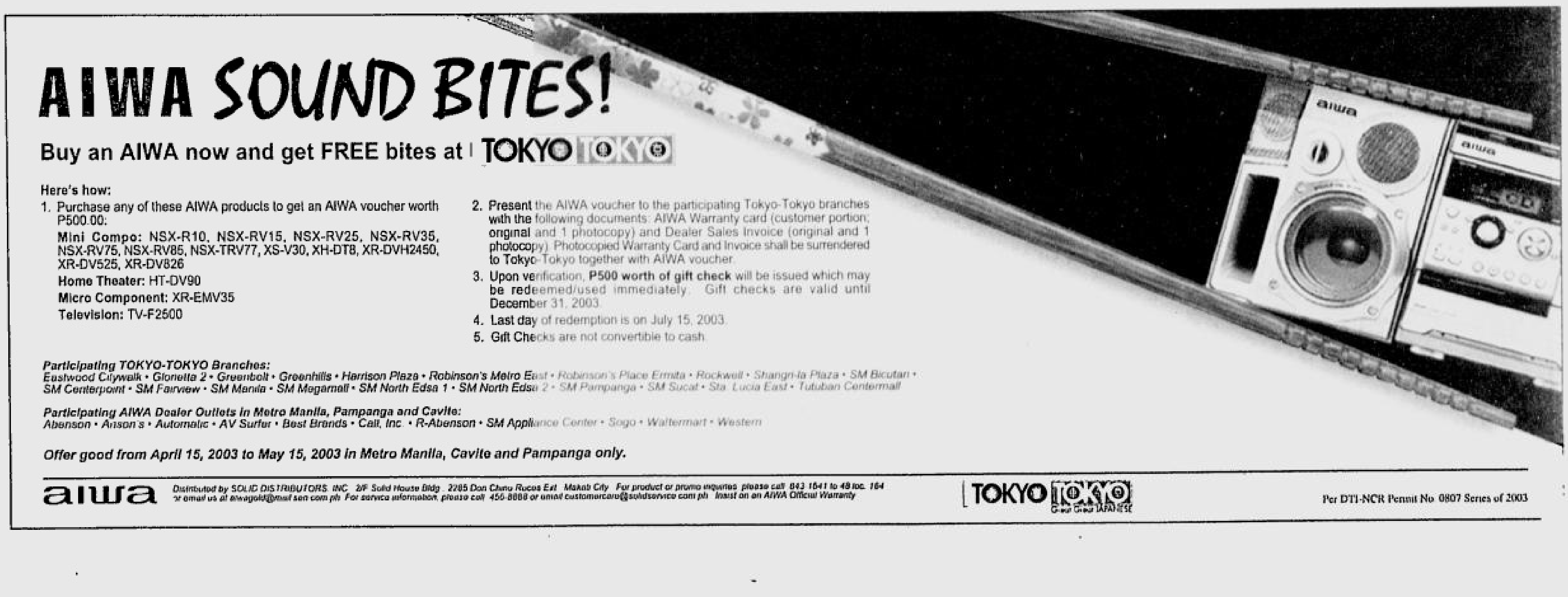

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INQUIRER Mindanao
Editor Jun Bandayrel · Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

No more old fairy tales for children

By Jeffrey M. Tupas
Kidapawan City

GEARED up with guts and two manuscripts, she rushed to Manila and dared to present her humble pieces to an established children writers' guild with the thought that they could be of help to her.

All she wanted was to look for a publisher for her first two books, but what she got was being called "*pipitsugin*" (mediocre).

She may be a neophyte in writing but she is not the middle-of-the-road kind that many in Manila had thought of her the first time they met her, Mary Anne Ordinario-Floresta said. She thought of herself as a newcomer in writing books, but definitely not a mediocre one. After all, she has a colorful and impressive track record to boot.

Floresta, a frustrated nun, worked as a news writer and head of a research team for a radio station of the Notre Dame Broadcasting Corp. in Kidapawan City for four years. After getting married, she gave up her media career to put up a preschool.

The 39-year-old mother is a Mass Communications graduate of the Philippine Women's University in Manila and had her training on Early Childhood Development in the University of the Philippines.

The unexpected hostile reception she got from the writers' guild that she thought could help her failed to shatter any of her dreams.

"At that time, I had the feeling that I was begging just for them to enlist me as a member . . . they were not really giving me the attention then. So I told myself that maybe it would be better if I published my own books instead," Floresta said.

Preschool kids

In 2000, Floresta stated writing books in the hope that she could offer original stories to her pre-school pupils who kept on complaining about the usual Beauty and the Beast, Cinderella and other fairy tales.

"The children became tired of the same old fairy tales. I could hear the children complaining, 'Can't we have another book?' Then the idea came to me. How about writing stories about Mindanao and its rich culture?" she said.

As a starter, Floresta wrote about the story of rubber trees and titled the book "The Crying Trees." It was followed by "The Smelly Fruit," a story about Durian.

But Floresta's problem did not end with having not joined a literary organization and not finding a publisher. She also had difficulty choosing illustrators from a list given by a new-found friend, Neni Sta. Romana, who also writes children's books.

Out of the many visual artists of the Ilustrador ng Kabataan (InK), only Yasmin Ong responded to her. Ong did the illustration for "The Crying Trees."

"It was really difficult for me because, of course, a known artist would rather work with well-known artists, too," Floresta said.

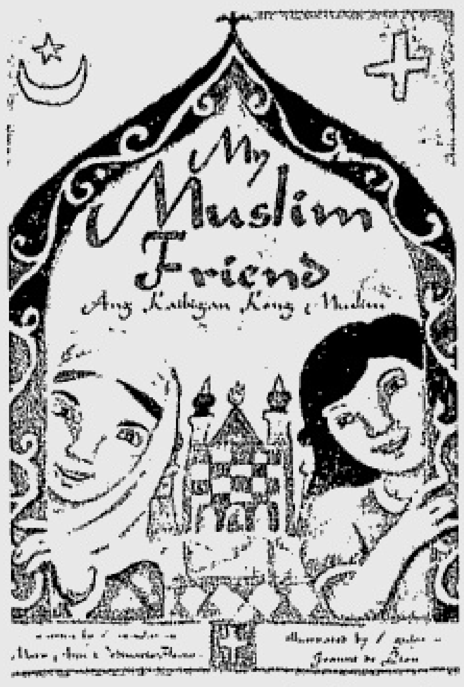
Book fair

A few weeks later, while searching the Internet for a conference on early childhood education, Floresta read about a book fair that was scheduled to be held in Singapore.

"The announcement said they would accept books from anywhere. So I said, maybe I should give it a try because I was quite sure that not one from Mindanao would ever submit [their works] there," she said.

The Book Exporters Association of the Philippines (BEAP), which is based in Manila, was tasked with screening participating books from the Philippines. At that time, Floresta had no ready books yet as Ong was still working on the "Crying Trees" illustration.

Fortunately, the BEAP accepted Floresta's manuscripts as entry to an exhibit. "That was because they (BEAP people) liked the stories," she said.



JEFFREY M TUPAS

COVER of "My Muslim Friend," one of Mary Anne Ordinario-Floresta's books.

Floresta said she was expecting her Singapore trip to change her world as a writer. The same people who called her *pipitsugin* had a change of heart and cited her for "the miraculous story of the year."

Even Floresta herself could not believe her luck. She never expected that despite being swept by insecurity as renowned writers surrounded her, she was able to pull off a miracle. Her books were picked by almost all of those that attended the fair, including writers from Japan, Australia, Singapore, Thailand and other Asian countries. And almost all of them wanted to buy not just copies but the rights to publish the "Crying Trees" and "Smelly Fruit."

Since that event, she said, she has been receiving invitations for local and foreign book fairs. It also became easier for her to look for named illustrators for her books.

Floresta said she never tried again to join the group that had dumped her. She instead chose to become a member of the BEAP.

As she is involved in early childhood development, Floresta is a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children based in Washington, D.C., the International Reading Association in Delaware, and the Director's Association for Early Childhood Education in Minnesota, USA.

9 books

Today, the "Crying Trees" and the "Smelly Fruit" are being distributed not only in the country and other Asian countries but also in the US. So far, Floresta has written nine books, two of which she considers very special—"War Makes me Sad" and "My Muslim Friend." She wrote the first title after war broke out between government troops and Moro rebels in Pikit, North Cotabato, in 2000.

"I asked myself, 'What could be the effect of war to the children? What could a Muslim child be thinking about the war?'" she said.

In the book, Floresta said, some people believed that war would settle the conflict between Christians and Muslims in Mindanao.

"So everybody declares an all-out war. But have we ever thought how the war affects our children? Have we ever tried to stop and listen to their silent pleas? Does the rest of the world know what these children are going through? What about the tragic memories war instilled in their hearts and minds?" she said.

In coming out with the book, Floresta said she had to go to an undisclosed village in Pikit for her interviews. She brought along her three children who distributed food to the villagers.

"My kids and I personally saw the situation after the war. Everything was ugly. Then I realized that we are all losers in war. Nobody wins," she said. "I brought my kids because I want them to see the other side of life. That life is not always beautiful and easy."

Pikit war

"War Makes Me Sad" tells about the story of an "innocent child" whose family was caught in the crossfire between the Moro rebels and government soldiers. The child's ordeal was real. Her story was what happened recently in Pikit.

The child narrates: "We run and I don't know where we are going. We ride in a cart pulled by a carabao. Sometimes in a tricycle, jeep or Ford Fiera. Or just hop in any vehicle that passes by so we can be far away from the explosions. I hear the people say, 'There is war.'"

"What is this war? Whatever it is, it makes me sad. I know it will take a long time before I can play again. We will leave our small hut, my kite, ball and books. I wonder will I still see my doll when I come back?," the child narrated.

As the story's character said, people in the evacuation centers could barely eat their meals and change their clothes because they had lost most of their belongings.

"We can't even take a bath because there is no water. Maybe that is the reason most of us get sick. I even saw a mother. She gave birth, but her baby did not move. They said there was no doctor to take care of her," the child said.

"This book will help (readers) realize that resolving the conflict through violence does not benefit anybody. They will be able to understand how people suffer the consequence of using weapons to settle differences. They will learn that in war, nobody wins," Floresta said.

What happened in Pikit in 2000 happened again recently, and Floresta said this showed that the government did not have the heart for the people. "The government should have empathy for others. Leaders should have the heart for them to see what life is during and after the war."

"War Makes Me Sad," along with others books written by Floresta, is now being used by the Department of Social Welfare and Development and the private Balik-Kalipay in their programs.

Just recently, "War Makes Me Sad" was featured by the Museo Pambata Foundation in an exhibit about the conditions of Filipino children. The story and the illustration of the book made people in the foundation realize the hardships experienced by children in the war-stricken areas in Mindanao.

"We are also sure that the illustration will be give other children an idea of how sad a child can really be when trapped in a place where there is war," the foundation said in its note to Floresta.

Longing for a free Iraq

By Aquiles Z. Zonio
General Santos City

ALL he wants to do is set foot on his homeland once again and breathe the fresh air of freedom.

Wahid Koubaisy, 57, who belongs to one of the most wealthy and influential families in Iraq, was just 24 years old when he bade goodbye to his native country in 1969 to expand his clan's textile manufacturing business in Europe. The clan, one of the textile giants in Baghdad, has more than 50,000 members in Iraq—quite a large number for a country with a total population of 23.6 million.

Wahid left behind his Iraqi wife and two children—a boy and a girl. He has not returned since then as he has spent most of his time hopping from one country to another in an effort to diversify the family business.

In 1976, he went to Belgium where he met his second and third wives. They are now the ones managing his textile and entertainment businesses there.

Wahid acquired Belgian citizenship in 1985. Now 57 and a successful trader, Wahid also loves to travel. In fact, he said, he had traveled to more than 80 countries before coming to the Philippines more than a year ago and putting up the Mamagaya, a music lounge on Santiago Boulevard in General Santos City and a piano bar at the Lola Sisay Seafoods House on J. Catolico Avenue.

Shortly before deciding to invest here, Wahid stayed in Cagayan De Oro City where he claimed he lost a big fortune for trusting a Filipino business partner too much. He said his partner squandered his P11-million account while he was on a six-month furlough in Belgium.

Persecuted

Wahid claimed that three of his uncles, who were then serving as senior ministers of Iraq, were hanged by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in a 1979 purge, along with hundreds of top ranking Ba'ath Party members and Army officers, on mere suspicion of disloyalty.

Since then, Saddam has seen to it that not a single member of the Koubaisy clan is recruited in the Iraqi army.

Among the clan members who were alleged victims of Saddam's despotic regime was former Vice President and Prime Minister Areef Abdulrazak, a first cousin of Wahid's mother. His uncle, Wahid said, was now living in exile in Egypt.

WAHID Koubaisy
AQUILES Z. ZONIO

The government, however, did not deprive other members of the clan of assets and property, except Wahid's four uncles who were implicated in the plot to oust Saddam. Wahid claimed his family has over $10 million worth of assets and property.

Wahid hopes that the United States-led war on Iraq would be over so he can return there soon.

Mixed feelings

"I am happy and at the same time sad," Wahid said between puffs of tobacco from his pipe when asked how he felt about the war. He said he was happy to see Saddam being booted out of power, but his heart bled seeing his countrymen being caught in the crossfire.

Many Iraqis, he said, were discontented with the present regime and were just afraid to speak out.

"I'm a Belgian and I'm proud to be a Belgian. But I'm also an Iraqi and I'll always be proud to be an Iraqi," he said.

Wahid said he was not convinced that the motive of the coalition forces in invading Iraq was eliminating Saddam's weapons of mass destruction. "North Korea and several other countries have weapons of mass destruction. Why is the US not invading them?"

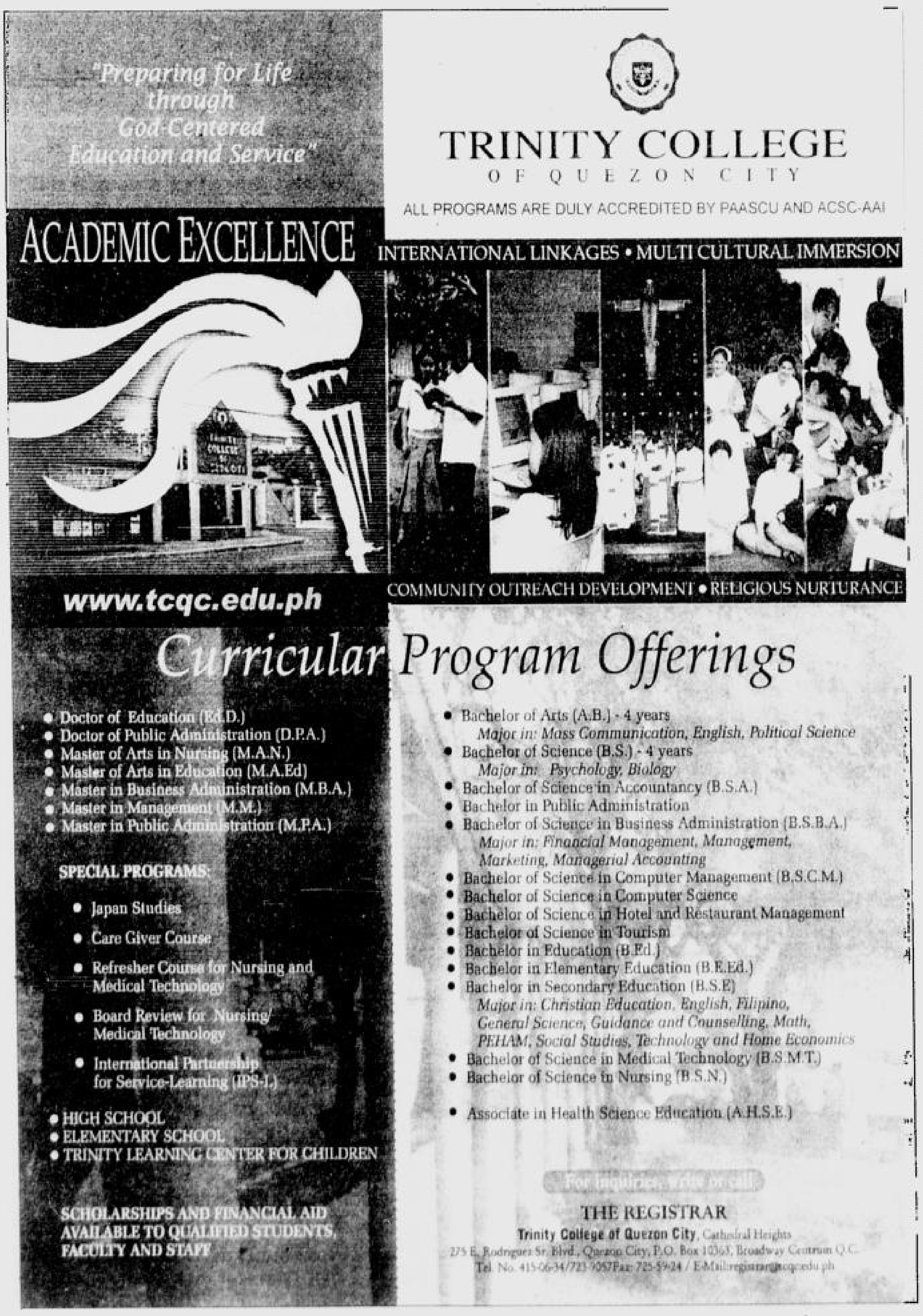
Iraq, he said, has the biggest oil deposit in the world. And the very motive of the US is to gain access to if not control of Iraq's oil resources. "If Saddam has weapons of mass destruction, he could have used it when he lost half of Iraq to the coalition forces."

Wahid said those who knew the background of Saddam would not believe that the despot would just watch his enemies march through Baghdad without using the most destructive weapon in his arsenal. "If their (coalition forces) intention is to liberate the Iraqi people, at what price?" he asked.

Not investor-friendly

The businessman said that if only Iraq was free, no Iraqi could be seen in any part of the world. "Iraq is a very rich country," he added.

Wahid noted that in the Philippines, business was good, "but the only thing that drives foreign investors away is corruption and too much red tape."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Foresters to be 'embedded' with US troops in war games

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—Foresters of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources will be "embedded" with some 2,000 soldiers from the United States who were supposed to arrive on Thursday for the Luzon-leg of Balikatan-03, the Presidential Commission on the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFACom) told the INQUIRER.

Undersecretary Amado Valdez, VFACom executive director, said the foresters would join the US troops when they begin the large-scale war exercises in the Manangilao Protected Area of the Sierra Mountain range in Nueva Ecija.

The DENR would use the occasion to inspect the forest reservation, take aerial photos and give the American and Philippine troops lectures on endangered wildlife, Valdez said. The training would be mainly comprised of jungle survival, he said.

According to Valdez, the DENR was charging the Balikatan program some fees for the use of the protected area.

Despite the continuing US-led war on Iraq, American troops from an air force base in Okinawa, Japan, were scheduled to arrive on Thursday via the Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

They would join at least 2,000 Filipino soldiers from the Philippine Air Force and Army for the two-week exercises from April 25 to May 6.

In Subic, Valdez said the American contingent would also have to go through quarantine as a protection against the spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in the country.

Balikatan 03, according to Valdez, is a "regular" large-scale war game that resumed in the Philippines in 1999 after the Senate approved the Visiting Forces Agreement that year.

He said Balikatan 03-1 would be held in Western Mindanao including Sulu.

The Mindanao-leg of this war game had been criticized after a Pentagon source disclosed that US soldiers would do combat missions in that part of the country.

Valdez said the venues of Balikatan-03 are the former American bases of Clark and Subic, the Army base in Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija, and the Navy base in Ternate, Cavite. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

BFAR warns against eating shellfish from Bolinao

DAGUPAN CITY—Officials of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources have advised the public to refrain from eating shellfish from the coastal waters of Bolinao, Pangasinan, after a test showed that the green mussels (*tahong*) from the town were positive of the red tide toxin.

The advisory, issued on April 15, and signed by BFAR Director Malcolm Sarmiento, said the latest results of BFAR's monitoring showed that the paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) toxin levels in the shellfish ranged from 60.56 micrograms (μg) per 100 grams to 554.40 μg per 100 grams.

BFAR advised the public to refrain from eating *tahong* until the toxicity level has gone down to below the regulatory level of 40 μg per 100 grams of shellfish meat.

However, BFAR said fish harvested from the same area are safe for human consumption provided they are fresh and their gills, intestines and other internal organs are removed and the fish washed thoroughly before cooking.

"Only the green mussels are contaminated with PSP," BFAR said.

Bolinao Mayor Jesus Celeste said he has informed the residents about the alert and is closely monitoring the town's marketplaces to stop vendors from selling *tahong*.

He said he was also verifying reports that fishponds in nearby Alaminos City and Bani town have released polluted waters into the sea, causing the red tide in Bolinao.

"There are very few fish cages in the area where the samples were taken and the water there is clear. It could be the water released from the fishponds that caused the red tide," he said. *Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Fire razes homes of 1,000 families

CEBU CITY—Some 1,005 families lost their homes on Good Friday when a fire hit a densely populated area in Barangay Suba-Pasil this city.

No one was hurt in the fire that broke out at about 12:20 a.m. and gutted down about 160 houses in the corner of Sto. Niño and Garfield Streets, Suba-Pasil.

Losses

SFO1 Felix Romero, fire investigator of the Cebu City Fire Department, said about P2-million worth of property was destroyed in the fire.

The fire started from the house of Edgar Conejos, supplier of sea cucumber, he said. Conejos' men were cooking sea cucumber and then left it unattended.

The fire immediately spread to nearby houses, which were made of light materials.

Narrow

Romero said they failed to put off the fire immediately due to the narrow roads leading to the fire scene.

Some residents, he added, also intervened by grabbing the hoses from the firefighters and used these to douse the fire on their own houses. *Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau*

"PROFESSIONALIZING THE AGRICULTURISTS"

Pursuant to Professional Regulations Commission (PRC) Resolution No. 2000-663 (Re: Creation of the Board of Agriculture), the 1st Licensure Examination for registration of Agriculturist will be on July 7, 8, & 9, 2003.

In line with this, the Pest Management Council of the Philippines (PMCP) announces its review sessions to prepare the agriculturists for the Board Exam.

A. Schedule of Reviews:
UP LOS BAÑOS – May 12-18, 2003
BPI MANILA – May 19-25, 2003
DAVAO – May 26-June 01, 2003
ILOILO – June 02-08, 2003

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GMA to meet 2 former Abu Sayyaf hostages

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—The holiest days of the Christian calendar have brought good news to President Macapagal-Arroyo and hostages held by the Abu Sayyaf.

On Good Friday, two women hostages, Cleofe Montulo and Emily Mantic, escaped unhurt after eight months in captivity.

Two years ago, American Jeffrey Schilling escaped from his Abu Sayyaf captors on Holy Wednesday and was presented by the President to the media at the Presidential Mansion here on April 13, Good Friday.

"We thank the Lord for their safe rescue," the President said of Montulo and Mantic, during a news briefing yesterday. "This is a very good start for the new Southern Command chief Gen. Roy Kyamko."

"This is a result of continuous military presence, and strong civilian support brings us nearer to attaining our objectives," she added.

She said she was supposed to present Montulo and Mantic in Manila on Monday, but she might go to Mindanao to meet with them there instead.

She said the military went on a "neutralizing" operation all through Maundy Thursday and Good Friday that gave an opportunity for the women to escape.

"The ensuing confusion in the enemy camp enabled the two women to abscond," she said.

The fates of Schilling and the two women were almost similar. Schilling was abducted on Aug. 28, 2000 while the Jehovah's Witnesses were nabbed while selling cosmetics on Aug. 20, 2002.

In the case of Schilling, Task Force Comet, the composite group consisting of troops from the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Marines, stormed a remote village in Luuk in Jolo after receiving a tip that Schilling was there. In the ensuing fight, Schilling escaped.

FAMILIAR scene on Good Friday in the country's crucifixion capital, Barangay Cutud, in San Fernando, Pampanga.

EDWIN BACASMAS

Iraqi refugees help Pope carry cross in Via Crucis

From page A1

two, who declined to give their names, told reporters that they fled Baghdad several months ago so that the father wouldn't have to fight for Saddam Hussein's forces.

At the end of the ceremony, the Pope, still staying seated, gripped the cross which was passed to him by an Iraqi couple who have lived in Italy for several years.

In impromptu comments, John Paul said it was apt that the procession was held at the Colosseum, "a symbol of times past of this great Roman empire which collapsed, and the Christian martyrs" who gave their lives for the faith in the ancient amphitheater.

Tragic images

He skipped his prepared text, in which he said he was thinking of the "tragic images of violence, of wars and conflicts, which daily reach us from so many places; of the anguish and pain of individuals and of peoples in every continent."

"How many of our brothers and sisters are reliving in their flesh the drama of Calvary? How numerous are the forgotten Ways of the Cross? Can we remain indifferent to the haunting cries of pain coming from so many parts of the world?" he added.

Without naming any country, the Pope also recalled in the speech the "deaths from hunger and hardship of thousands of innocent adults and children, to the insult of human dignity, unfortunately perpetrated sometimes in the name of God."

In his 15-minute speech, John Paul said the reenactment of Christ's Passion and Crucifixion meant that "only God can give life after death," while "for man, death is the last word."

Before US-led forces invaded Iraq, John Paul had repeatedly expressed opposition to the armed conflict and has since voiced concern for victims of the war.

Among those privileged to carry the cross for a stretch were the widow and young son of Dr. Carlo Urbani, the Italian doctor of the World Health Organization who first alerted the world to the existence of the deadly SARS virus in Vietnam and who died from the contagious respiratory disease on March 29.

Others chosen to take turns bearing the cross were from parts of the world torn by violent conflict: Franciscan friars from the Holy Land and lay Catholics from Colombia, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Keeping tradition

Earlier in the day, John Paul maintained the tradition he began in 1979 when as the newly elected Pope he heard the confessions of ordinary Catholics at St. Peter's Basilica.

The frail Pontiff was wheeled into the basilica while sitting on a trolley, and his aides helped him into a mahogany confessional booth near the main altar. He heard the confessions of five women and five men over a 90-minute period before attending Mass in the early evening.

Challenging his stamina, the Pope will conduct a vigil service on late Saturday night in the basilica and a Mass on Easter Sunday at St. Peter's Square.

On the most joyful day of the Christian calendar when the faithful celebrate Christ's Resurrection, the Pope will also deliver an Easter message that is again expected to focus on the suffering caused by the Iraqi war and other conflicts.

Reports from AP and AFP

2 Abu Sayyaf hostages escape

From page A1

and Mantic were found at a military checkpoint in downtown Jolo. He said the two women were on board a public utility jeep when soldiers conducting the checkpoint recognized them.

They were recovered at the Barangay Martirez checkpoint at around 11 a.m., Maj. Gen. Roy Kyamko, the new Southern Command chief, said.

Col. Nelson Allaga, commander of the 3rd Marine Brigade, said only Florida Montulo and Nori Bendijo, also Jehovah's Witnesses preachers, and Sipadan hostage Roland Ullah remained in the hands of the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu. Ullah was abducted in April 2000.

He said the military was now using information given by Mantic to locate the bandit group.

Unrelenting pursuit

Both the military and the President were quick to claim that unrelenting pursuit operations by the Armed Forces had made the escape possible. *(See related story above.)*

"There was no firefight; they were able to escape from their captors due to continuous military operations," Kyamko told reporters in a phone interview.

Jolo Army commander, Col. Alexander Aleo, said the hostages might have been able to escape because of intense military operations and could have found their way to a residential area in Jolo where soldiers were conducting a security sweep.

In Baguio City, where she was spending the Holy Week, President Macapagal-Arroyo announced the escape at a news briefing, saying the hostages were able to flee after a day of gun battles between the rebels and soldiers.

She commended the soldiers under Task Force Comet, the main force going after the Abu Sayyaf, who, she said, were engaged in fighting the bandits all throughout Good Friday.

Ms Macapagal said the ensuing confusion in the bandits' camp enabled the two hostages to escape. "We thank the Lord for their safe return," she said.

The President also said the military was on track in their 90-day deadline to neutralize the Abu Sayyaf.

"So we're a little over 30 days and General Kyamko is continuing to carry out that instruction," the President said yesterday.

She said "continued military pressure and strong community support are bearing upon the successful attainment of our objectives."

"Day by day, we're nearing the dawn of stability and peace in Sulu. There's no turning back. The terrorists are nearing the end of the road. And the hopes of the people of Sulu will soon be redeemed," she added.

Good health

Aleo said the two women appeared to be healthy. But he said most of the time the two hostages ate only bananas and cassava.

A report from The Associated Press, quoting Brig. Gen. Romeo Tolentino of Southcom, said the women, upon reaching Jolo at around noon, sought help from Mindanao State University Prof. Rizal Radam, who then took them to the headquarters of the Army's 4th Infantry Battalion where they underwent medical exams.

"They were hungry and tired because the rebels were pursuing them," Tolentino said, adding that they had bruises and blisters on their feet.

In her briefing, the President thanked Radam who she said aided the two women and delivered them to the military.

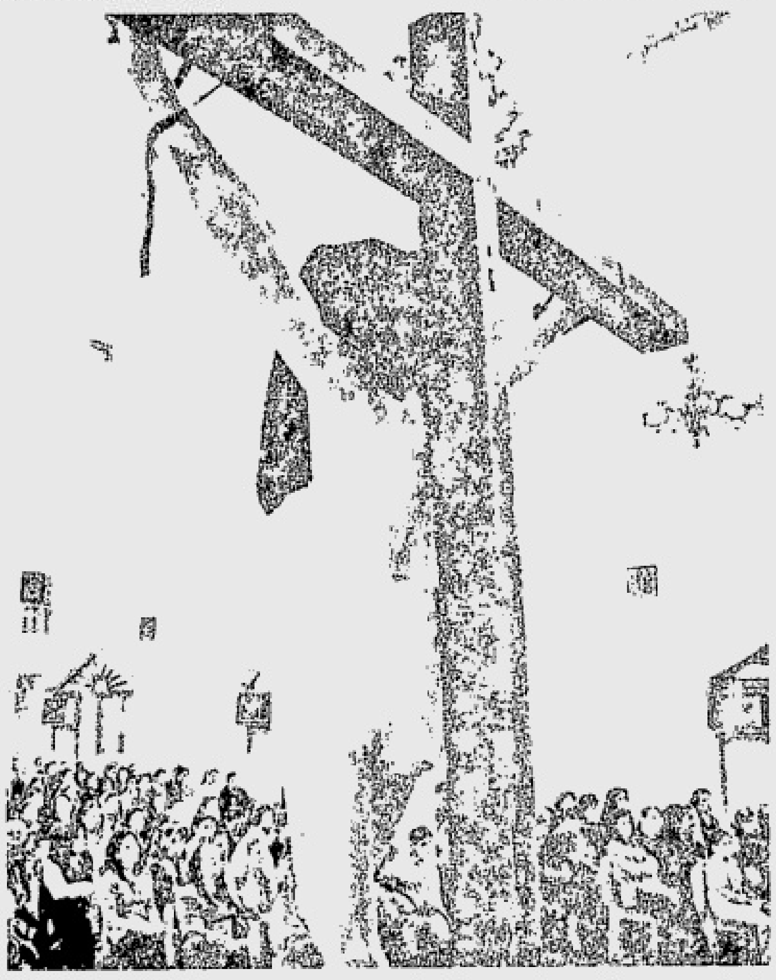
Their escape came more than two weeks after an Indonesian sailor, Pieter Lerrich, escaped from his Abu Sayyaf captors in Sulu. He was the last of four Indonesian tugboat crewmen abducted by the bandits off Jolo Island last year.

Two others had earlier escaped, while the rebels allegedly killed the fourth captive. Lerrich helped soldiers find his remains in a jungle outside Patikul.

"We are very happy they have finally gone home," Aleo said of the women hostages.

Benjamin, Cleofe's husband, said he wanted to go to Jolo immediately after receiving the news that his wife was finally free.

Benjamin said he was conducting a Bible study when the news came. *With reports from Dona Pazzibugan; AP, Reuters, AFP*



GOOD FRIDAY in Baghdad: Caldei Christians, who make up nearly 4 percent of the Iraqi population, observe the solemnities of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ at the Virgin Mary Church. There are 56 churches in the Iraqi capital; Caldei are the biggest Christian group with 30 churches.

GETTY IMAGES

Happy Birthday
Pres. Joseph E. Estrada

BARRED from entry to see their idol and present their best wishes on his 66th birthday on Saturday, Erap loyalists wait it out at the gate of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center where the celebrant observed his second birthday in jail.

VAL HANDUMON

Erap birthday wish: FPJ to run in 2004

From page A1

friend Fernando Poe Jr. to run for President.

Given that his 66th birthday yesterday may not be the last he will spend in detention, Estrada could not have asked for more.

Yesterday's somber Black Saturday mood failed to dampen his spirits as he marked his second birthday in jail. The day started on a high note. Among the earliest presents to arrive, Estrada said, were a desk organizer from President Macapagal-Arroyo and those 66 cakes which he said were from his followers in the slums.

But Estrada said he was still "waiting" for something: for Poe to decide whether he would run for President in 2004.

"He still has to make a decision and I'm still waiting. It's still hanging," he said yesterday. "He hasn't said yes or no."

Estrada said Poe had asked him to defer endorsing another opposition candidate—whether it was businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco or Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

"'*Wag muna* (Not yet). I've not decided yet," he quoted Poe as having told him.

What could be taking Poe so long to decide? Estrada replied in Filipino: "He might come under attack if he declares his candidacy now; it's probably one of his considerations. He has a good sense of timing."

According to Estrada, one consideration would be if Ms Macapagal decides to run again despite her declaration to the contrary.

He conceded Poe would be unbeatable. For one thing, the ex-President said, he had never beaten Poe in the box office. And he's still a movie star to this day.

Anyway, he added, "I'm not in a hurry myself since it's still very early." Poe's decision can wait until August this year.

Estrada's dilemma

But Estrada admitted that he already finds himself in a quandary—"*naiipit ako*"—since the three best possible choices for opposition candidate are all close to him.

"Ronnie (Poe) is my best friend, Ping is my protégé, while Danding is my *kumpadre*," he explained.

Estrada won the vice presidency in 1992 as Cojuangco's running mate. After he became President in 1998, Estrada appointed Lacson as the national police chief.

Estrada and Poe's friendship on- and off-screen spans almost four decades.

For his birthday, Estrada said, Poe gave him a present way in advance—a "jacket" and snacks that Poe brought along when he paid a visit to Estrada on Monday last week.

Estrada said Ms Macapagal was among his earliest well-wishers. Her gift—an office desk organizer made of laminated wood—was sent through the office of his wife, Sen. Luisa "Loi" Ejercito.

Ms Macapagal called him at around 9 a.m. yesterday, he said, and "she greeted me and I thanked her for remembering, for the nice gesture."

His early-morning visitors also included "two busloads" of orphans from the Damas de Filipinas orphanage in Paco, Manila, whose building he helped reconstruct following a great fire during his term.

Also among his early callers were Manila Mayor Lito Atienza and Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte.

Private affair

Estrada said he wanted to keep his birthday celebration a family affair, but that "nothing can be done" if political allies and other friends show up. He was to host a 7 p.m. dinner last night.

But the birthday present Estrada sounded most eager to tell the INQUIRER about were the 66 cakes he got from a group of loyalists, who he said were mostly "squatters."

"They all contributed money for these cakes, but police kept them from entering (the VMMC)," he said.

The pro-Estrada crowd, numbering around 300, assembled at about 10 a.m. before the hospital compound's main gate on North Avenue. They had come from Smokey Mountain, Parola and Baseco compound in Tondo, Manila, while another group was said to have come from Nueva Ecija.

They brought out their 66 cakes for Estrada before the press cameras, although some of them were seen eating and "taking home" their own gifts afterwards, according to police officers posted at the gate.

Inquirer keeps lead in survey among readers

From page A1

The Manila Bulletin ranked second last year with 28 percent, while The Philippine Star came in third with 19 percent. (The total percentages exceeded 100, indicating that some of the respondents had read at least one newspaper.)

Forty-nine percent of the broadsheet readers mentioned the INQUIRER when asked what newspaper they had read in the past seven days. The Manila Bulletin got 33 percent, and the Philippine Star, 18 percent.

The ARO, a marketing and opinion research agency in the Philippines, is a member of the Gallup International Association. Its media survey is an annual syndicated poll conducted in the second quarter of each year since 1994.

While the data for 2002 were gathered in April 2002, the ARO only released the results recently.

For the 2002 survey, the ARO conducted face-to-face interviews of 2,000 respondents nationwide using systematic sampling. The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 2.19 percentage points.

Top pick in Metro

The ARO said the INQUIRER was also the top pick in Metro Manila, with 43 percent of respondents saying they read the newspaper yesterday or today, and 51 percent had read it in the past week.

"In Metro Manila, we are strengthening our position. Our rating means that the classified ads (market) is beginning to shift from Manila Bulletin to us," said David O. Valdes, INQUIRER senior vice president for corporate services.

Valdes attributed the INQUIRER's market leadership to innovation and improvements in editorial content.

"The negative part is that the whole (newspaper) industry is not improving but the good thing is that the INQUIRER has improved (its readership)," Valdes said.

The INQUIRER is the favored newspaper across economic classes and age groups. It is strongly preferred by the AB socioeconomic class and by both men and women.

Fifty-six percent of the male broadsheet readers said they read the INQUIRER either yesterday or today, and 51 percent said they had read it in the past seven days.

A similar trend was observed for female broadsheet readers, 52 percent of whom said they read the INQUIRER either yesterday or today and 44 percent said they had read it in the past seven days.

The Manila Bulletin, which came in second, was read by 29 percent of the male and 28 percent of the female broadsheet readers either yesterday or today. A total of 34 percent of the male and 32 percent of the female respondents had read the Manila Bulletin in the past seven days.

The male-female readership rating for the Philippine Star was 21 percent and 16 percent for yesterday or today and 19 percent, and 17 percent for the past seven days.

Of the socioeconomic classes, the AB heavily favored the INQUIRER over other papers. Sixty-three percent of this group said they read the INQUIRER yesterday or today and 67 percent read it in the past seven days. The INQUIRER's close competitors got 24 percent and 39 percent, respectively.

The ARO data showed the INQUIRER had been steadily strengthening its leadership in readership since 2000. Though the incidence of newspaper readership was not encouraging, the ARO surveys showed that the INQUIRER incidence of readership was 4 percent in 2000, 3 percent in 2001 and 2 percent in 2002.

The incidence of readership for the Manila Bulletin was 2 percent in 2000, 3 percent in 2001 and 1 percent in 2002. It was a flat 1 percent for the Philippine Star for the past three years.

GMA: Feast on 'tilapia' not 'galunggong'

From page A1

For the past several months, Ms Macapagal had made known that she shares Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo's enthusiasm over the potential of tilapia culture as an agricultural business. But until the middle of last year, the lowly galunggong was still very much on her mind.

In her second State of the Nation Address before Congress on July 22, 2002, the President used the galunggong as one example to prove that prices of basic commodities had not gone up but even went down during her administration.

She said that when she assumed office in January 2001, galunggong was sold at P80 per kilo. But recently, she said, she was able to buy the fish at P60 from a market.

The next day, several homemakers called up radio stations, pointing out that the galunggong being sold at P60 a kilo was already stale and that the price of good galunggong was P80 a kilo.

Taking journalists in tow, the President herself went to the market to buy galunggong at P60 a kilo.

It was, however, then President Aquino who had etched galunggong in the national consciousness as the poor man's fare. During her civil disobedience campaign against the Marcos regime, Ms Aquino showed how the people were suffering by pointing out how much the price of galunggong had skyrocketed over the years.

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US Embassy stalls gifts of life to 'heart babies'

From page A1

around P400,000—an amount the two kids' parents, who are middle-income earners, cannot raise. Their only hope is the GOL.

In a phone interview, Gio's father Jake narrated to the INQUIRER their ordeal at the US Embassy on March 20. After receiving the visa letter in February from the GOL, De Luna and his wife immediately scheduled an interview with the embassy.

The day came and the consul advised Gio's mother Loretta that their visa applications were temporarily denied because of their supposedly "dubious" bank account. Surprised, Loretta said it was an emergency case but her plea fell on deaf ears.

Montojo immediately informed Andrew Topp, chair of GOL District 7490 Foundation. Topp got in touch with the US Embassy here. In earlier news reports in the INQUIRER, the chief of the non-immigrant visa section of the US Embassy in Manila, Stuart Patt, had assured Topp that the embassy would help the GOL with visa applications of other Filipino program beneficiaries in the future.

Since January 1999 when the GOL District 7250 in New York extended its service to the Philippines, more than 50 heart babies have been sent to the US and Canada for free heart surgery.

Other GOL Rotary Districts such as the one in New Jersey have also sent Filipino kids abroad for corrective heart surgery.

Montojo had been helping "heart babies" having herself gone through the same predicament. Her daughter Dajed Montojo was the first Filipino beneficiary of the GOL's program.

Montojo stumbled upon BOES.org (action@boes.org), a Sweden-based Internet lifeline founded by Bo Eric Sandberg. It helps parents find sponsors for their children's heart surgery.

After Topp's call to the embassy, De Luna soon received a notice for another interview. De Luna quoted the embassy as saying, "We are reconsidering your visa application."

Shattered

On March 26, at 8 a.m., Gio and his parents found themselves in the same room where they had once been denied. This time they hoped to get a favorable response. The same consul turned down their visa applications for the same reason: according to the consul their bank statement showed that they could not pay for two round-trip tickets. The De Lunas were shattered.

De Luna said his family had already applied for the Northwest Airlines Give Care program which also financed the airfare of past GOL recipients from the Philippines. But they have to wait a little longer. "We may not be able to afford the surgery but we are trying very hard to find ways to pay for the plane tickets," De Luna said.

The De Lunas have compared the plane fare of other airlines, and they are sure their money in the bank can pay for the tickets.

The American consul informed the De Lunas that instead of $1,500, they should have at least $3,000 to afford a round-trip ticket, according to Gio's father, who works in a consulting firm.

The consul handed the De Lunas a pink slip which said: "You have been found ineligible . . . You may possibly ask for another interview."

"It's my son's life," De Luna said. "And we don't have the luxury of time."

Gio's mother was also to hand carry medical documents of two other Filipino children whose parents were hoping would be accepted into the GOL's program. If they can get there on time, two more lives might also be saved.

DNA test required

Rizzie's case is also a heart breaker.

Her mother, Carolina Vitug, came all the way from Olongapo, leaving at 4 a.m. to meet the 8 a.m. interview at the US Embassy on March 27.

Rizzie is the youngest of the three children of Vitug, whose husband works as a security guard in a hotel in Subic. Vitug's legs wobbled in disappointment when the consul handed over a checklist of the requirements needed for her and Rizzie to get US visas.

One of them was a DNA test which the consul noted in the paper: "To prove the child is hers." DNA testing costs around P300,000, almost the equivalent of the cost of heart surgery in the country.

Vitug was extremely upset while relating her ordeal on the phone. "It puzzled us, though, that it's the same case, but they're asking for different requirements," Montojo noted.

In the accounts of the two worried parents, one of the consuls asked, "What is the Gift of Life?"

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Schumacher posts fastest time

IMOLA, Italy—World champion Michael Schumacher posted the fastest time in Friday's first qualifying session for the San Marino Grand Prix, setting the track record for the Enzo and Dino Ferrari circuit. Schumacher's teammate Rubens Barrichello was second fastest as the two Ferraris roared back onto the track in an effort to begin turning around their dismal start to the season. *AP*

Sunday Sports

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Assistant Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**

'Fistorama' fights on 9

SAMSUNG'S "Fistorama" celebrates its first year anniversary today by featuring the championship fight for the RP minimum-flyweight title between champion Rodel Mayol and challenger Isidro Lorona in 12 rounds. The fight was held last week at the Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Taguig, Metro Manila. "Fistorama" is aired every Sunday noon on RPN 9.

Shell 5 hoping for 'resurrection'

Turbochargers eye crucial win vs Kings today

STANDINGS	W	L
Group A		
Alaska	8	3
FedEx	5	5
San Miguel	5	5
Sta. Lucia	5	6
Purefoods	4	7
Group B		
Red Bull	9	1
Coca-Cola	5	4
Talk N Text	5	5
Ginebra	3	7
Shell	2	8

GAMES TODAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*
4 p.m.—Coca-Cola vs Red Bull
6:30 p.m.—Ginebra vs Shell

By June Navarro

MIRED at the bottom following an eight-game slide, Shell tries to resurrect from the grave when it takes on Barangay Ginebra today at the resumption of the Samsung-PBA All Filipino Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

"If we win against Ginebra, we're alive again," declared Shell coach Perry Ronquillo, whose Turbochargers are buried underneath four other teams in Group B with a 2-8 win-loss slate.

True. The moment Ronquillo and the Turbochargers scrape past Barangay Ginebra (3-7), they will gain the upper hand in the standings by virtue of the win-over-the-other rule.

This will put the Kings deeper in a quandary, an ominous situation when they meet the Talk N Text Phone Pals to replay a double-overtime controversial game last month. The replay will be held on Tuesday (April 22) also at the Big Dome.

Right now, the Kings are in a gloomy state after absorbing three consecutive heart-breakers, two of them down-the-wire games where they folded up in the end.

Eric Menk, whose titanic efforts were laid to waste, seemed soaked in frustration after their recent 105-97 debacle against Red Bull, wondering what went wrong with the team armed with talent and adored by a fanatic crowd.

"It's really terrible. We could have won those games but did not. It's not a good way to prepare for the replay against Talk N Text," said the 6-foot-6 Menk, one of only five players in the league who continue to log in double-double figures every night.

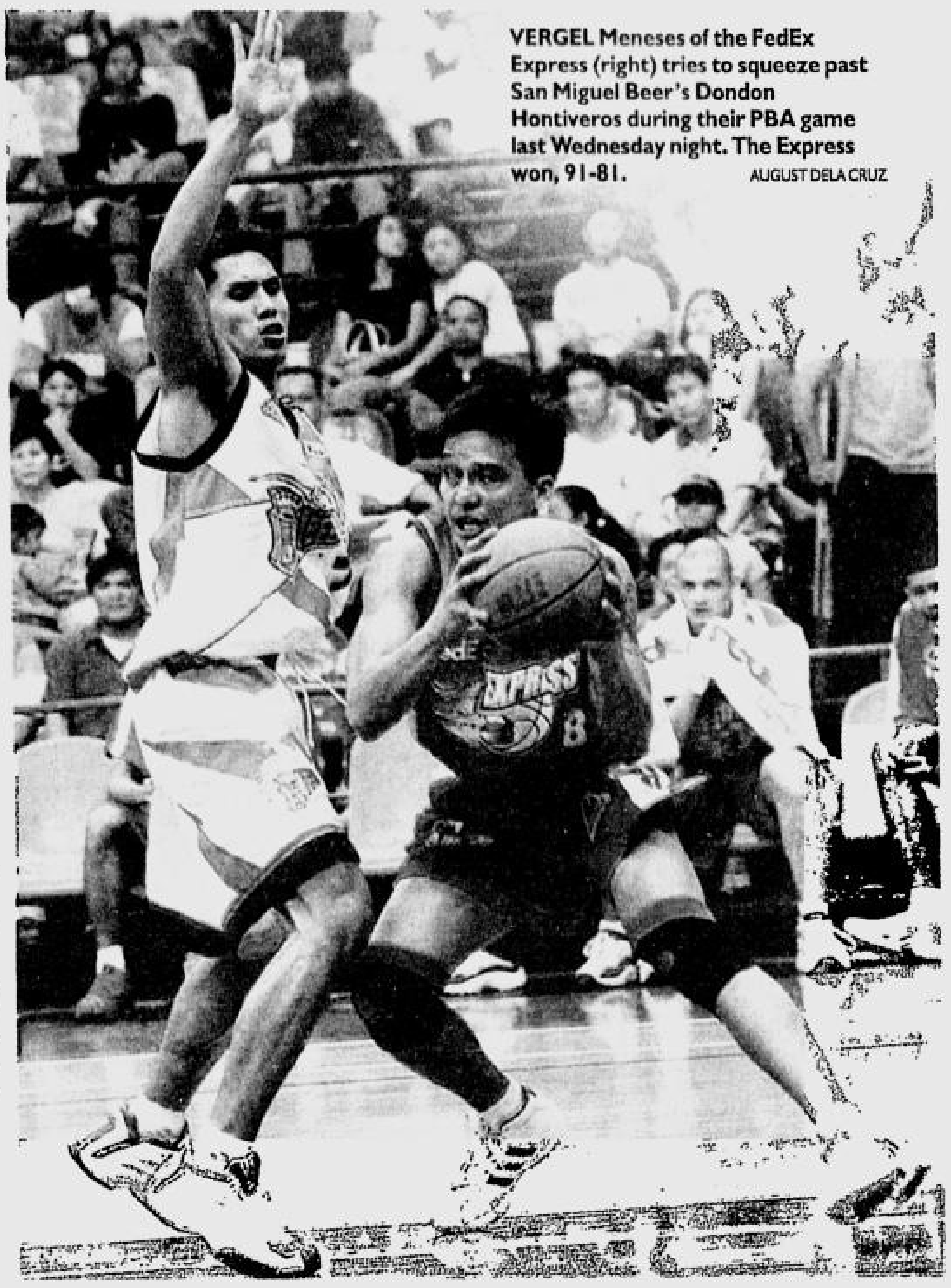
The Kings' predicament, however, somehow spells relief for the Turbochargers, who just got out of an eight-game losing streak after escaping with a 68-65 win over the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs last week.

In the curtain-raiser, Batang Red Bull goes for another ego-building win when it tackles defending champion Coca-Cola, a team which bolted out recently from a four-game losing skid with a 79-78 win over the Phone Pals.

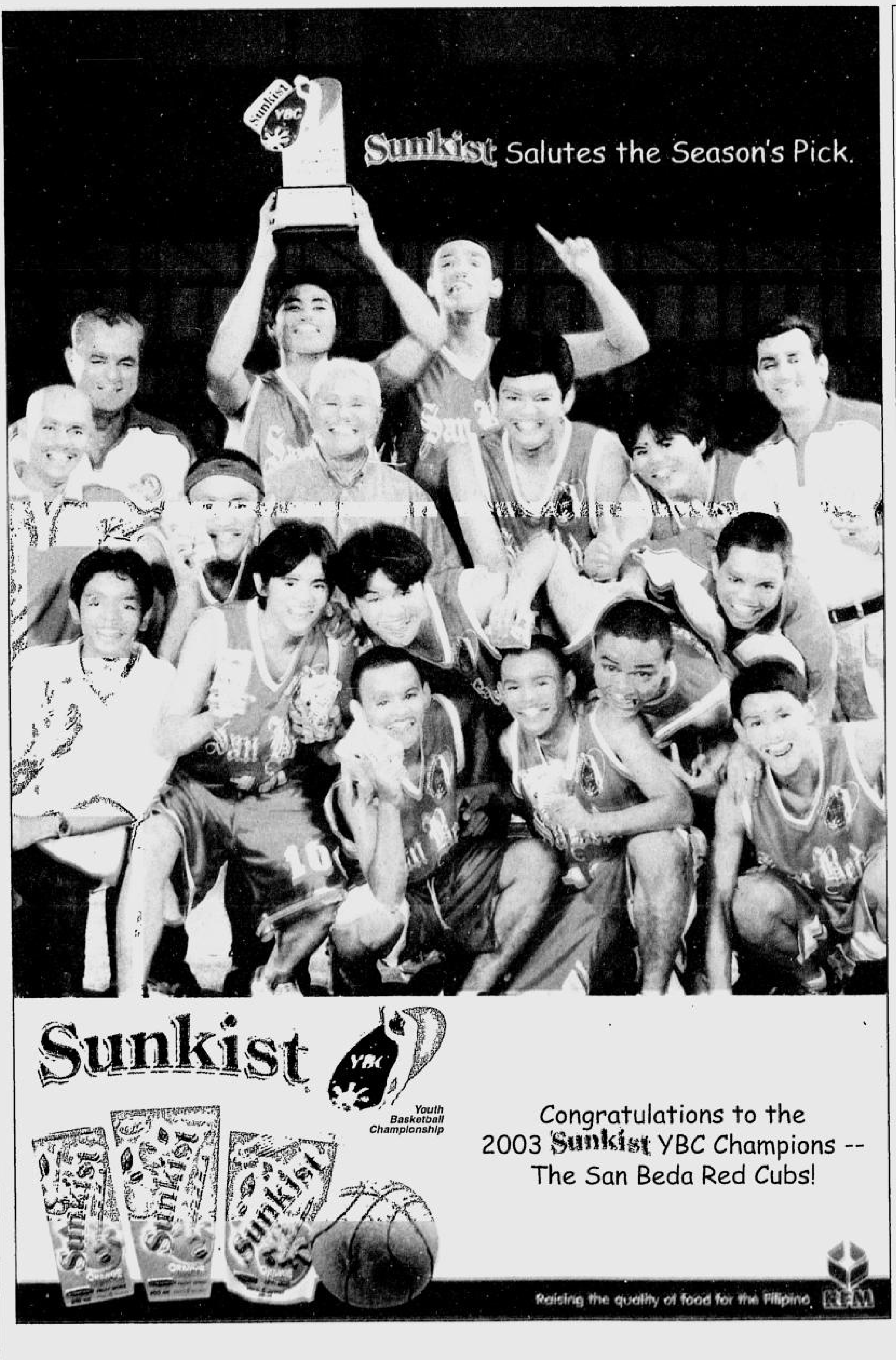
With nothing more to prove and are closing in on a quarterfinals berth, the Thunder (9-1) will just sharpen their skills against the Tigers (5-4) and explore other avenues where they could prosper.

Meanwhile, NBN-4, the official television carrier of the PBA, will take over the parallel broadcast aired by I-Sports beginning on Tuesday, a PBA insider told the INQUIRER.

PBL games today *(Pasig Sports Center)*
2 p.m.—Blu vs LBC-Batangas;
4 p.m.—Viva vs Welcoat Paints;
6 p.m.—RP Team vs Nutri-licious



VERGEL Meneses of the FedEx Express (right) tries to squeeze past San Miguel Beer's Dondon Hontiveros during their PBA game last Wednesday night. The Express won, 91-81. AUGUST DELA CRUZ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He is still around, fellas

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

THE HIGH tide today comes at 1:27 a.m. (1 meter) and at 12:44 p.m. (1.8 m); the low tide is at 6:17 a.m. (0.3 m) and at 7:59 p.m. (0.3 m).

End of intermission.

We need to slow down, yes. But better yet, we need to calm down. All of the time. Life's a war that can be won only by facing our daily battles squarely. Who was the guy who said that the best revenge is living life well? Here's a glass to him.

Having said that, let me emphasize that the high tide, low tide thing was not mine. I didn't figure those out. Scientists did. In fact, they've figured them all out already, from Jan. 1, 2003, to Dec. 31, 2003. So, on the last day of the year, the high tide comes at 3:54 a.m. (1 m) and at 5:47 p.m. (0.9 m); the low tide is at 10:57 a.m. (0.2 m) and at 11:41 p.m. (0.5 m).

Have you not noticed? Like lovers, they also come in twos.

Such is life. Such is the universe we live in. There is the fixed, another is one's fate, we need to deal with.

Each one of us has a high tide, a low tide. But it has always been in the dealing that separates the man from the boys, the wise from the fools.

Do you know that Maundy Thursday is also called Maundy Money, money distributed as alms in conjunction with the ceremony on Maundy Thursday? Maundy (latin for mandate) is the washing of the feet of the poor, especially commemorating Jesus' washing of the feet of His disciples on Maundy Thursday.

How many among you have had the experience of washing the feet of the poor?

I bet you there is only one in a million.

But the money-giving to the poor?

I bet you there is more than I can imagine.

Even the not so rich give to the poor. Even the poor give.

The day our Dear God died is called Good Friday. An irony? God dying is good? Oh, well, it's good because on that day, Friday, God died so that our sins may be forgiven. The Ultimate Sacrifice was for mankind's salvation. And yet, when the 13th day of a month falls on a Friday, fear strikes us. Wasn't the 13th station of the cross supposed also to be good because it saw Jesus being taken down from the cross in "The Way of The Cross"? Said Arnold Janssen: "How often I am unwilling to come down from the throne I have built for myself, thinking myself more dedicated and better than others."

Some athletes are like that. They just do not know when to quit. That is also true in almost all spheres of life.

Yesterday was called Black Saturday and yet, in the place where I grew up, it is called *Sabado Gloria*. Glorious Saturday.

Today is Easter Sunday, the day of the Risen God. His resurrection means there is life after death.

Such is life. Such is the universe we live in.

Yesterday, I asked the man in the mirror after I had finished writing. "Why am I saying all of the above"?

He said: "Thought you might want to know."

Some birthdays, indeed, can trigger un-sportsmanlike conduct. At least it happens only once a year–when one is afforded the luxury of mediocrity.

Marikina camp tomorrow

IT IS Marikina's turn to host the ASM Basketball Camp when the Marikina Hts. (S-Mall) covered courts in Concepcion, Marikina, becomes the venue starting tomorrow up to April 26 of the province-hopping series, the only basketball academy recognized by the Philippine Sports Commission.

Veteran coaches will begin teaching boys and girls 12-and-below and 13-and-above at 1 p.m. lasting up to 4 p.m.

The Camp is sponsored by Fun Chum Fruit Drinks and supported by PAL, Toyota Revo, adidas, Citgo, BMGSolar, Pilipinas Shell, Mizuno and Infinite Ideas' Gelo Serrano.

Held for the benefit of Hands-On Manila's street children, the Camp was launched in Calauag, Quezon, on March 29 with Sen. Robert S. Jaworski and PSC Chair Eric Buhain as guests of honor. Call Ronald Perada at 724-6966, Zenaida Cunanan at 9337423 or Grace-Lito Legaspi at 9214998 or 9325124 for other details.

NBA PLAYOFFS START

Lakers' quest for No. 4 begins on road

NEW YORK--In order for the Los Angeles Lakers to reach the NBA Finals and go for a fourth straight title, they might need to do something they didn't have to do in 2000, 2001 and 2002 — begin each Western Conference series on the road.

Shaquille O'Neal, Kobe Bryant, coach Phil Jackson and their supporting cast begin their quest for championship No. 4 Sunday afternoon in Minneapolis, the city the Lakers called home until 1960.

Actually, it's a quest for title No. 10 for Jackson, who is seeking to become the only coach besides Red Auerbach to lead his team to that many championships.

"Minnesota is our first test," O'Neal said. "Mr. (Kevin) Garnett has something to prove, and we have something to prove. It should be a good series."

Yes, these Lakers are one of the great teams in NBA history. But are they among the greatest of the great? Four straight titles would put them in that realm; three in a row comes up a little lacking.

As for Garnett, he's still seeking to prove the theory that a team with the league's most expensive young player can actually make it to the second round of the postseason.

There was plenty of uncertainty early Wednesday evening, when no one except Sacramento and Utah knew who their first-round opponent would be. But the other 14 teams now know exactly what lies ahead of them.

And until the Lakers lose — if they lose — the focus will be on them.

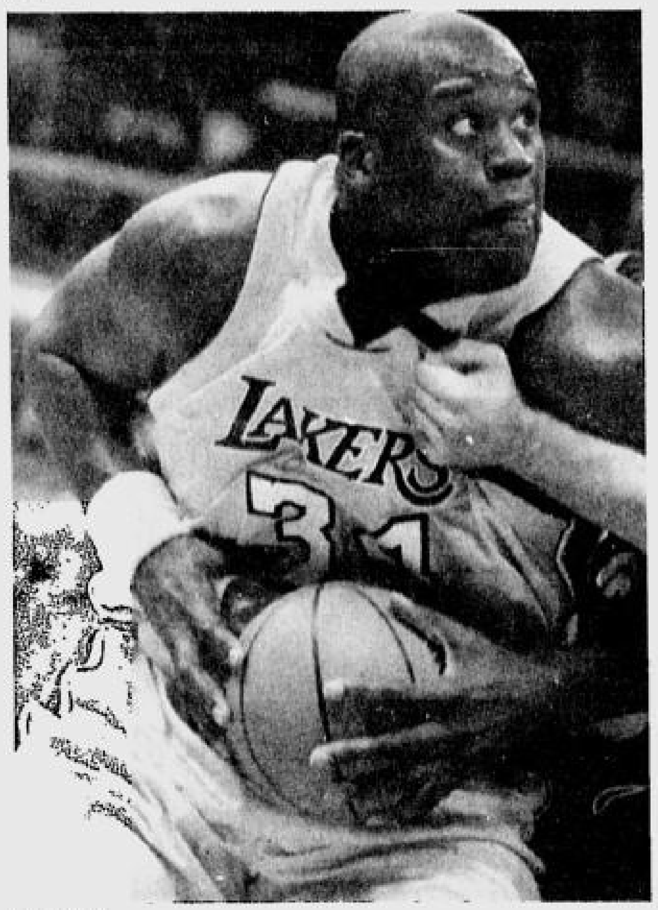
It will even be that way for the Western Conference teams that aren't playing Los Angeles — many of which have endured their share of mental distress at the hands of the Lakers over the past few seasons.

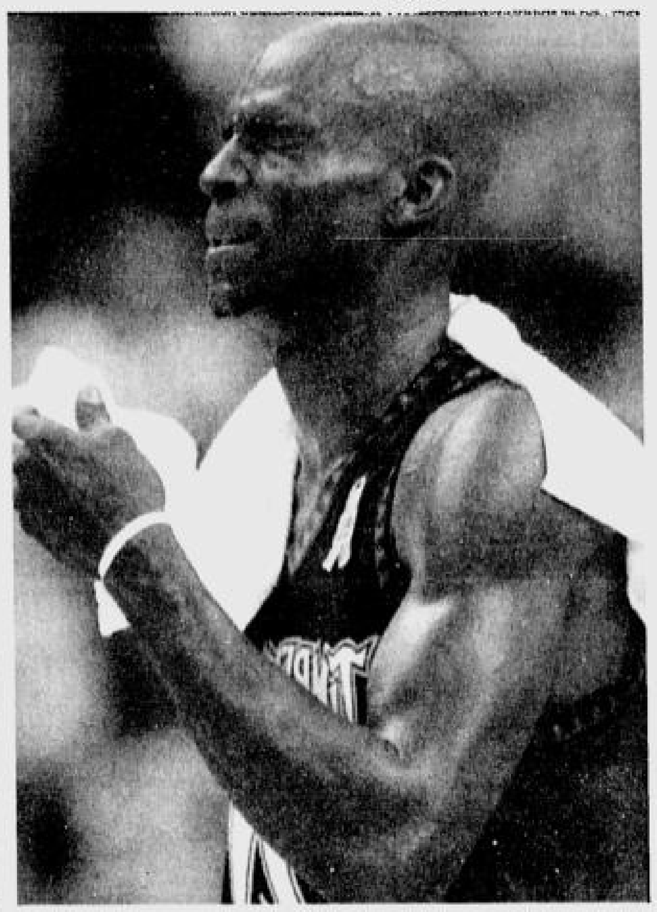
Take the Sacramento Kings.

The Lakers' biggest rivals took the eventual NBA champions to overtime in Game 7 of the Western Conference finals a year ago. The Kings still feel as though they were cheated in Game 6, when the Lakers went to the foul line 27 times in the fourth quarter alone.

The playoffs begin Saturday (Sunday in Manila) when Milwaukee plays at New Jersey, to be followed that day by four more Game 1s: Boston at Indiana, Phoenix at San Antonio, Portland at Dallas, and Utah at Sacramento.

Sunday's games, aside from Los Angeles-Minnesota, are Orlando at Detroit, and New Orleans at Philadelphia. *AP*


O'NEAL


GARNETT

Solar Sports live telecast

SOLAR Sports kicks off its live and daily coverage of the 2003 NBA Playoffs today (April 20) with Game One of the Dallas Mavericks-Portland Trailblazers first round series at 8 a.m., with a replay at 8 p.m.

Solar will also telecast a playoffs doubleheader on Monday featuring the opening round games of the New Orleans Hornets and Philadelphia 76ers on Solar Sports at 8 a.m. and three-time NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers and Minnesota Timberwolves at 7 p.m. on IBC-13.

The rest of Solar's televised NBA Playoffs games for the week are as follows: Tuesday, April 22, 10:30 a.m., 1st Round Game 2: Utah Jazz vs. Sacramento Kings, replay 8 p.m.; Wednesday, April 23, 8:30 a.m., 1st Round Game 2: New Jersey Nets vs. Milwaukee Bucks, replay 8 p.m.; Thursday, April 24, 8 a.m. on Solar Sports, 1st Round Game : Orlando Magic vs. Detroit Pistons, replay 10 p.m. on Solar Sports; 1st Round Game 2: Dallas Maverick vs. Portland Trailblazers, replay 8:30 p.m.

SPORTSTV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

MOTOR SPORTS: F1 - San Marino Grand Prix, 7 p.m., Star Sports
BASKETBALL: NBA Playoff Preview Show, 7 a.m., Solar Sports
NBA Playoffs - Mavericks vs Blazers, Game 1, 8 a.m. (r - 8 p.m.), Solar Sports
NBA - Wizards vs 76ers (Jordan's Last Game), 10:30 a.m. (r), Solar Sports
NBA Anthology: Chicago Bulls - 1996-97 Championship Season, 7:30 p.m., ESPN

Capsule previews of 1st round playoffs

EASTERN CONFERENCE

No. 1 Detroit (50-32) vs. No. 8 Orlando (42-40)

Season Series: Pistons won 2-1, with Tracy McGrady scoring 46 in Orlando's only win.

Storyline: Grant Hill's past meets Grant Hill's present, although Grant Hill is injured and will not play.

Key Matchup I: Richard Hamilton vs. McGrady. Somebody on Detroit is going to have to subjugate their offense and concentrate on defense in an effort to contain the NBA's leading scorer. If Hamilton can't do it, Michael Curry might try. Key Matchup II: Chauncey Billups vs. Jacque Vaughn/Darrell Armstrong.

Prediction: Pistons in 7.

No. 2 New Jersey (49-33) vs. No. 7 Milwaukee (42-40)

Season Series: Tied 2-2, with Milwaukee winning by 19 in the only game that came after the Bucks traded Ray Allen to Seattle for Gary Payton.

Storyline: A meeting of the two best point guards ever to come out of Oakland, Jason Kidd and Payton.

Key Matchup I: Kidd vs. Payton. The friendship between these two will be put aside for two weeks as Payton, one of the league's best backcourt defenders, tries to slow down the player who makes everything happen for the Nets.

Prediction: Bucks in 6.

No. 3 Indiana (48-34) vs. No. 6 Boston (44-38)

Season Series: Tied 2-2, with Ron Artest committing a flagrant foul against Paul Pierce just five seconds into the last meeting.

Storyline: After bowing out in the first round the past two seasons, Isiah Thomas tries to coach the Pacers into the second round and beyond.

Key Matchup I: Artest vs. Pierce. The league's best one-on-one defender and loosest cannon must slow down the Celtics' No. 1 scoring option. Key Matchup II: Jermaine O'Neal vs. Antoine Walker.

Prediction: Pacers in 4.

No. 4 Philadelphia (48-34) vs. No. 5 New Orleans (47-35)

Season Series: Hornets won 2-1, but two of the games were way back in November.

Storyline: Shapes up as possibly the most competitive series in the East, matching two teams with different styles who both have several banged-up players.

Key Matchup I: Allen Iverson vs. David Wesley/Stacey Augmon. In the final meeting of the season between the teams last weekend, coach Paul Silas had Augmon defend Iverson. The defensive specialist held Iverson to 2-for-11 shooting as the Hornets won 94-89. Key Matchup II: Derrick Coleman vs. Jamaal Magloire.

Prediction: 76ers in 7.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

No. 1 San Antonio (60-22) vs. No. 8 Phoenix (44-38).

Season Series: Suns won 3-1, with San Antonio's only victory coming in overtime.

Storyline: There couldn't have been a worse matchup for San Antonio; Phoenix was the only Western Conference team to beat the Spurs three times. If the Spurs manage to get past this round, they could play the Lakers — a team they swept 4-0 — in the second round.

Key Matchup I: Tony Parker vs. Stephon Marbury. Marbury shot 54 percent against the Spurs, including 12-for-14 on March 4. Parker shot 3-for-12 and 3-for-18 in their first two meetings this season. Key Matchup II: Tim Duncan vs. Amare Stoudemire.

Prediction: Spurs in 7.

No. 2 Sacramento (59-23) vs. No. 7 Utah (47-35)

Season Series: Kings 3-1, with Utah's only victory coming on the road in mid-January — the game in which Jerry Sloan shoved referee Courtney Kirkland to earn a seven-game suspension.

Storyline: The Jazz gave the Kings a tough time in the playoffs a year ago, losing 3-1 in a first-round series that featured four close games. Could be the last time John Stockton and Karl Malone play together for Utah.

Key Matchup I: Chris Webber vs. Malone. In Utah's lone victory this season, Webber turned his ankle in the second quarter and did not return. In the other three games he averaged 22.0 points, 11.3 rebounds and 6.7 assists. Key Matchup II: Mike Bibby vs. John Stockton.

Prediction: Kings in 5.

No. 3 Dallas (60-22) vs. No. 6 Portland (50-32)

Season series: Tied 2-2, with Dallas winning the first two and Portland the last two.

Storyline: No matter who wins this series, there is guaranteed to be one happy billionaire when it's over. Rule of thumb: It'll take 110-115 points to win each game.

Key Matchup I: Dirk Nowitzki vs. Rasheed Wallace. They faced each other three times during the regular season, each getting the better of the matchup once and playing to a standstill the other time. Nowitzki is the better scorer, Wallace the better defender.

Key Matchup II: Michael Finley vs. Scottie Pippen.

Little-known fact: Blazers owner Paul Allen is worth $20.1 billion, whereas Mavs owner Mark Cuban is worth $1.4 billion, according to Forbes.

Prediction: Trail Blazers in 7.

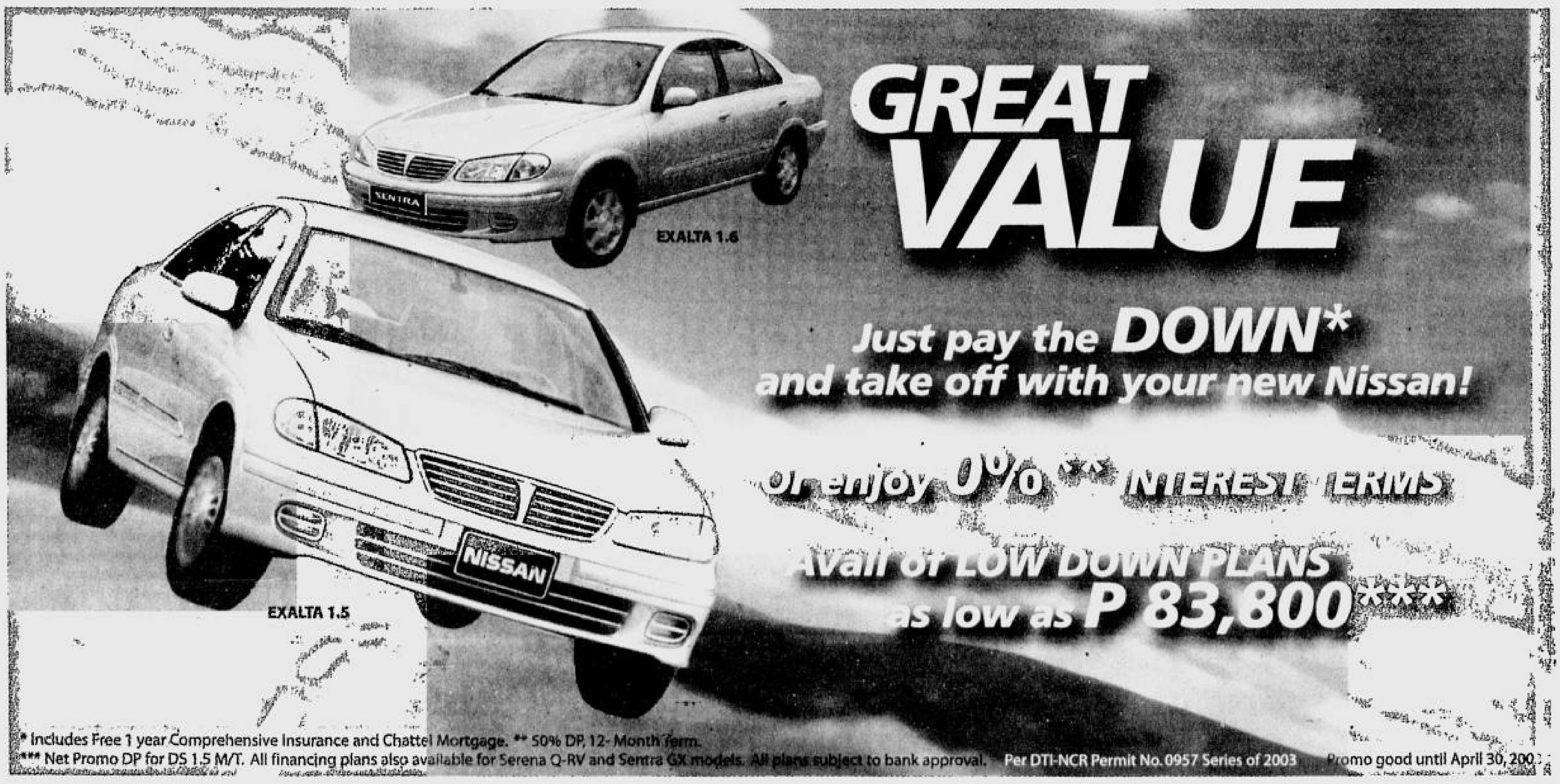
No. 4 Minnesota (51-31) vs. No. 5 LA Lakers (50-32)

Season series: Tied, 2-2. The Wolves won twice in December when the Lakers were struggling. The Lakers won twice in March, with Shaquille O'Neal scoring 40 and 26, and Kobe Bryant getting 30 and 30.

Storyline: The Timberwolves have made six consecutive first-round playoff exits, and their task in appearance No. 7 is their toughest yet.

Key Matchup I: Kevin Garnett vs. Mark Madsen. Talent-wise, could quite possibly be the biggest mismatch in any of the eight playoff series. For that matter, it could be the biggest talent mismatch in NBA playoff history. Key Matchup II: Radoslav Nesterovic vs. O'Neal.

Prediction: Lakers in 5. AP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Growing family excites 'Vertek'

Buenavista girds for Vietnam SEAG

By Marc Anthony Reyes

BUENAVISTA PDI PHOTO

EDUARDO Buenavista was born before his elder brother Carlito could even learn how to walk.

For the folks of a sleepy farming town like Barangay Sto. Niño in South Cotabato, that was news enough that they readily dubbed Buenavista "Vertek" for his accidental "overtake" of his sibling.

Little did they know that 25 years later, Buenavista will literally be making many "overtakes" along the way to a flourishing career in track and field.

Barely five feet tall with short neck and high shoulder, Buenavista came into national consciousness after winning two gold medals (10,000m and 5,000m) in the Kuala Lumpur Southeast Asian Games in 2001.

That feat helped soften the blow the country received after it won just 31 gold medals and finished fifth overall in the Games. He has won several international meets since then, including last year's inaugural Asian Grand Prix where only the best athletes in the region are invited to compete.

He is also being counted upon to bring home honors in the Vietnam SEA Games in December. But what makes Buenavista very excited these days is his growing family and the farm he just bought in his native Barangay Teresita.

"I still don't have a carabao, but I'm saving for it," Buenavista told this reporter. He just came from a routine 10-kilometer "recovery jog" from the Baguio Teachers' Camp to Mines' View to Philippine General Hospital and back.

With his earnings as national athlete and prize money he won in different tournaments, Buenavista has acquired a one-hectare farm planted to rice as well as a three-hectare spread pawned to him.

But while in Baguio, where most of the national tracksters are camped, he is staying in an apartment with wife Chona and one-year-old son Edward.

His training varies every day, according to Buenavista, who is under the tutelage of former champion marathoner Mario Castro. That involves workouts, 1,000m speed run, 1,000m drill and the 10K.

"It's very hard but I think I got a good training when I was a kid," said Buenavista, who used to walk three kilometers to school every day. He was the 12th of 13 children. The elder siblings ran away, leaving him to help his parents who are both tenant farmers. In short, he was your usual poor boy's tale.

"My job then was to look after the carabaos and take them out to the grasses," said Buenavista. "But most of the time, I would run around the field with my friends. That's where I developed my passion for running."

Champs join PSA tourney

A SELECT group of derby winners have signified their intentions to join the elite cast of participants in the upcoming "PSA Challenge 50—Cock Main Derby" on May 12 (Monday) at Mandaluyong Coliseum.

This undertaking is made possible through the support of highly-popular sabong idol Patrick Antonio of Sagupaan Superfeeds Agricultural Products Inc., well-liked sportsman and UCAP president Raymond Velayo and OPMI president Vic Yu.

The early registrants include two-time international derby champion William Go of Gold Cup Gamefarm. Go shocked the big-time derby circuit by ruling the World Slasher Cup and the tough Cavite International 7-Cock Derby in 2001. Go also topped the Rabatitat Super 4-Cock Derby (40 entries) last April 14.

Also in the list are 1995 World Slasher Cup champion Dante Carandang, a topnotch lawyer from Tanauan, Batangas, and the father-and-son team of Tos and Charlie Reyes, owner of La Loma Cockpit and best remembered by aficionados for their entry Old Time Nevada which ruled the 1999 Showdown International 8-Cock Derby.

Also invited were popular horseowner Sandy Javier, Francis Lumunsad, racing commissioner Jun Sevilla, Rudy Salud, Lito Orilloza, Nestor Mercado and Eddie Araneta.

Tubby is highest-paid coach

LEXINGTON, Kentucky—Tubby Smith signed a new eight-year contract as Kentucky basketball coach on Friday, a deal that will make him the nation's highest-paid coach.

The 51-year-old will earn $2.5 million a season at Kentucky, which was the number one seed for this year's NCAA Tournament before falling to Marquette in the Midwest Regional final.

"I just signed an eight-year deal and I look forward to being a part of this university for some time," said Smith, who is 164-47 with the Wildcats, including a national championship in 1998.

"I feel quite lucky that my name is on that contract." As for the big payday that awaits him, Smith was quick to downplay it. *Reuters*

WINNING CONNECTIONS JESS YUSON

Popular horseowner Hermie Esguerra (left) holds the trophy after High Octane won the second leg of the Road to Triple Crown series recently at the Santa Ana Park. Also shown are jockey Dominador Borbe Jr.and trainer Nestor Manalang, Joining the winning connections are Philracom chair Jimmy Dilag (partly hidden) and commissioner Jun Sevilla.

GMA visit; negligence at 'world class' park

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

TALKS abound that no less than President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo herself is coming over to the San Lazaro Leisure Park to find out if it's really world class as what has been bragged about by its officials.

So between now and the holding of the 2003 First Gentleman Silver Cup next month, the SLLP management has got a lot of time to repair what must be repaired, build what must be built and clean what must be cleaned.

According to my Silip Boy, GMA is accompanying husband Mike Arroyo when the race honoring the First Gentleman is ran a few weeks from now.

And there's a big possibility that GMA would be gracing the affair just like what she did in the past two stagings of the meet.

My Silip Boy said that if he were the SLLP bossman, he would push for the immediate construction of comfort rooms around the facility.

"*Pwede-ba namang ipagamit sa Presidente yung mga* Portalets? *Nakakahiya naman kung ganyan,*" said my SB.

***

Add River Bee and Hazmoore to the growing list of horses which have been "victimized" thus far at the "world class" SLLP.

River Bee was on the way to beating Harry's Up in the last race last April 15 when he rammed into a rope, losing momentum and eventually losing the race to Harry's Up. The rope, placed during the parade of entries to serve as demarcation line between the starting gate and horses, was not removed.

Wasn't that negligence on the part of the SLLP people?

Noted horseowner-breeder Sandy Javier cried "foul" so were thousands of *kareristas* who had placed their bets on River Bee, their *puro* in the doubles, forecast, and most importantly, *parating* in the Winner-Take-All.

A day later (April 16), Hazmoore's left fore spike shoe was detached while being led out for the *parada* in Race 4. Hazmoore's handlers searched for it but to no avail. Hazmoore, also owned by Javier and trained by James Saguiped, was eventually scratched.

Racing rules stipulate that the club should provide one in case such incidents occur. But the "world class" SLLP has none on that night.

So far, the only positive thing we're hearing about the SLLP is that it's grandstand is now being "corrected." Also, the jockeys' quarter shown before *kareristas* last Wednesday night was another welcome development although many said it looked very much like a hospital ward.

***

Happy Easter and happy racing!

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Race 2--1. Aringkingking 2. Nine West 3. Lady Blaster
Race 3--1. Hercules 2. Maple My Love 3. Sunny Sky
Race 4--1. Are You Happy 2. Sensational
Race 5--1. Sekreta 2. Puppy Dog Tail/Free Entrance 3. Golden Prince 4. Green Buck
Race 6--1. Doctor Steve 2. Better King 3. Courage
Race 7--1. Magnanimous 2. Ilocos Princess 3. Partnership
Race 8--1. That's My Tiger 2. Sir Olizon 3. Noble House 4. Baby My Beloved
Race 9--1. Cosanne 2. Gemstone
Race 10--1. Extreme Illusion/Native Talent 2. Astronaut 3. Flying Machine
Race 11--1. May's Magic 2. Santa Fe 3. Clear Sky
Race 12--1. Glamour Girl 2. Well Noted 3. Sham Sham 4. Richie Rich 5. Flying Fortress 6. Premiere Act

Junior World seats at stake

ARDINA

A TOTAL of 162 kids from all over the country dispute the 24 slots to the Callaway Junior World event in San Diego, California when the third leg of the Samsung Jungolf Tour is played at the Southwoods Legends and Riviera Executive courses starting Tuesday, April 22.

All champions in the five age-group levels for boys and girls will be awarded Manila-Los Angeles-Manila tickets by Philippine Airlines for the annual Junior World this coming July, according to Jungolf president Gerry Handog.

Handog added that the other slots have been assigned to the various age-groups according to what the local team is provided for by the San Diego committee.

Electrobus Consolidated, the local distributor of Junior World title sponsor Callaway, is providing a special prize package for the winners. This is aside from the regular co-sponsors of the Tour like Airlift Asia, Air Liquide Phils., Global Lighting and Exito Manufacturing. Pisanti, Bellevue Manila, Third World Eximport, HBW Enterprises, MCCI Corp. and BF Technology are minor sponsors.

Based on their previous performances, the top seeds in their respective divisions are Ian Rey Intal and Jayvie Agojo in Class A, Tonton Asistio and Gerileen Handog in Class B, Mia Piccio and Amado Eustaquio in Class C, Wolen Juan Superal and Dottie Ardina in Class D and JR Gonzales and Christina Potenciano in Class E.

Miguel Tabuena, recent winner in the Sarawak Junior World Masters, will be making his first stint after begging off from last week's Eagle Ridge leg.

Cink moves up

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina--Stewart Cink, winless for three years on the PGA Tour, shot a six-under-par 65 on Friday to take the lead after the second round of The Heritage tournament. Cink, on 10-under 132, leads 2004 US Ryder Cup captain Hal Sutton by one shot while Nick Price and Chad Campbell are tied for third on 134. *AP*

Eagle Ridge tilt set

THE FIRST QUARTER binge of member-guest events come to an exciting wrap-up with the third edition of the Eagle Ridge Invitational tournament set to be played May 23-25 at the Andy Dye and Nick Faldo courses of the country's biggest golf complex in Gen. Trias, Cavite.

Despite being scheduled late in the summer, the fatigue factor should pose the biggest challenge for participants of Eagle Ridge's member-guest bash as they pit skills over the two hazard-laden courses that require a lot of patience, much more consistency.

Shotgun start for all combination days (Friday/Dye-Saturday/Faldo, Friday/Faldo-Sunday/Dye and Saturday/Dye-Sunday/Faldo) is 10:30 a.m. which should put competitors especially those coming from Metro Manila on a very relaxed mood before teeing off.

Inquiries may be coursed through the tournament office at 046-4192843.

Rosales 7 behind

LAS VEGAS--Jenny Rosales of the Philippines shot a 71 yesterday to stay within sight of the leader Candie Kung and Catriona Matthew going into the final round of the Takefuji Classic. Rosales' 141 total left her seven shots off the pace. Kung, bogeying the 18th for the second straight round, and Matthew were at 10-under, a shot ahead of Christie Kerr. Annika Sorenstam was five shots back after a 67. Dorothy Delasin had a 69-143. AP

NCA 7-cock tilt up

SUBMISSION of weights for the star-studded NCA 7-Cock Derby on April 21-23 will be held from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. today (Sunday) at Ticketnet beside the general admission gate of the Araneta Coliseum.

Seeing action in this post-Lenten derby hosted by the pioneer Firefly Group and Bulacan businessman Nestor "Spider" Alcala are the country's champion cockers such as Big Dome owner Nene Araneta, Ambassador Danding Cojuangco;

James Chiongbian, Peping Cojuangco and long-time partner Esting Teopaco, former Rizal Gov. Ito Ynares, twice Cocker of the Year Jun Santiago, Pampanga's Jun and Rudy Jingco and the Madlambayan brothers, Alex and Gerry Escalona, Claude Bautista and Boyboy Roa, Dicky Lim, Eddie and Bomboy Araneta, Boy Jiao, Mario Villamor, Pico and Frank Berin, Rudy Albano, Ram Lopez, Alan Tan, Tos Reyes and Boy Velez.

Also in the fold are Fil-Americans Rene Medina and Ric de Guzman from San Francisco, California; Mayor Nene Aguilar and Gerry Ramos, among others.

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METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

For the faithful, an image to pin their hopes on A26

ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON MAJOR ROADS

Next demolition target

By Leila B. Salaverria

AFTER the soul cleansing that marked the observance of the Holy Week, another kind of "cleansing" will be taking place along major thoroughfares in the metropolis.

In the following weeks, the Metro Manila Development Authority) will begin the removal of illegal obstructions on the sidewalks of Edsa and other major roadways like Aurora Boulevard and Quezon Avenue.

According to Traffic Operations Center Director Angelito Vergel de Dios, the target of this particular drive is not the illegal vendors, but flowerboxes, wingwalls, posts and the like that have taken up space on the sidewalks meant for pedestrians.

He said these structures are also in violation of the national building code.

He said that as with the drive against illegal vendors, there would be no exceptions in this campaign.

"No law says that a building is exempt from following the rules on construction," Vergel de Dios said in an interview. "(The drive) should also counter the perception that the MMDA is anti-poor."

But he added that this doesn't mean that sidewalk vendors would be ignored. He said another team of MMDA personnel will continue to go after illegal vendors.

Vergel de Dios said building owners who were found to have violated the building code have

NEXT/ A26

DREAM RIDE

Kalayaan flyover in Makati on Black Saturday provides a dream road to travel on for Metro Manila motorists. Today, however, it will no longer be traffic-free as Metro residents return to the city from their annual Lenten break.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

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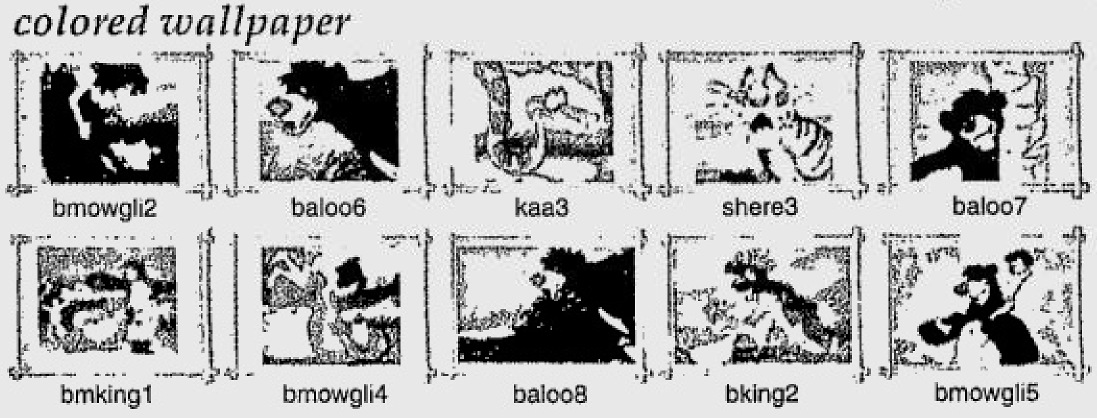
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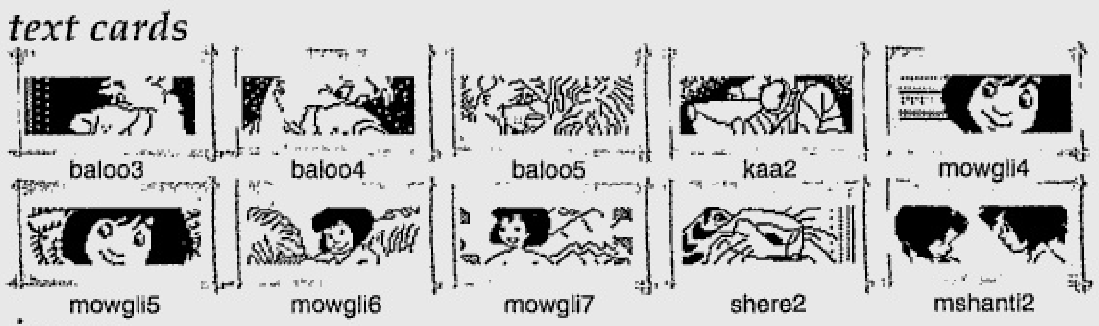
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For the faithful, an image to pin their hopes on

By Leila Salaverria

ON APRIL 22, expect a shower of miracles.

A life-sized laser copy of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, reproduced from the likeness of the Virgin Mary that inexplicably appeared on a poor man's tilma, or Mexican cloak, will be enthroned at the Manila Metropolitan Cathedral on Tuesday.

On May 7, a second image of the Lady, the official patroness of the Philippines, will be enthroned at the Cebu Metropolitan Cathedral.

At a time when the country is in the midst of conflict, the Lady of Guadalupe is expected to bring hope among the believers.

With faith, the "impossible becomes possible" through Mother Mary, said Monsignor Nestor Cerbo, rector of the Manila Cathedral.

In fact, when officials of Cemex Philippines, a cement company based in Mexico, decided to donate the 7-foot framed images of the Lady to the two cathedrals in celebration of the 50th year of Filipino-Mexican Diplomatic Relations, a series of miracles followed.

The Cardinal's decision

Juris Soliman, Cemex corporate communications director, was understandably reluctant to ask Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin to enthrone the image, and allowed him to decide what to do with the likeness.

But to her delight, the Cardinal himself suggested that the image be enthroned at the Manila Cathedral.

Overjoyed, she and Cemex Chief Executive Officer Francisco Cue met with Rector Cerbo to inspect the cathedral's chapels and select the one where the image, authenticated by the Archbishop of Mexico, will be placed. They chose the Chapel of St. Jude.

But the Cemex officials noted that the chapel's ceiling leaked and, worried that the image may be ruined when the rainy season comes, they have offered to shoulder the costs of waterproofing and repairing not just the St. Jude chapel, but the four other chapels of the Manila Cathedral as well.

Inexplicable

No man can explain away the miraculous appearance of the image of the lady on a farmer's cloak.

It all began in Mexico on Dec. 9, 1531 when Juan Diego, a 57-year-old Indian farmer, was on his way to assist in a Mass dedicated to the holy virgin.

Diego, now a saint, saw a beautiful lady at Tepeyac hill who introduced herself as the Virgin Mary and asked Juan to tell the Bishop Zumarraga of Mexico to build a church dedicated to her on the exact spot where she appeared.

Diego obeyed her request. But the bishop told Diego to ask for proof from the blessed virgin.

On Dec. 12, Diego encountered the lady again and relayed the bishop's request. She asked him to go to the spot where he saw her first and to gather the flowers that grew there. Diego obeyed and was amazed to see in bloom various kinds of flowers, including Castilian roses that would not have survived the winter climate.

JAIME RUIZ de Haro, president of Cemex Philippines, beams proudly at the life-size laser copy of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

VAL HANDUMON

Juan gathered them up in his tilma and took them to the lady, who re-arranged the flowers, bundled them in Juan's tilma, and told him not to open the tilma until he was face to face with the bishop.

Indian features

Juan went to meet the bishop and upon his release of his tight hold on the tilma, the flowers cascaded to the floor and the image of the Lady of Guadalupe, bearing Indian features, appeared on the coarse cloth of the tilma. The bishop immediately ordered the construction of the church.

The image on the cloth has defied science. While a regular tilma, especially one as coarse as Juan's, could last only 20 years, Juan's cloak with the image has survived for over 500 years. The colors remain vibrant. The image also survived a time bomb placed underneath it in 1921.

Close studies of the picture also reveal that no brush strokes could have made the image. Nobel Prize winning chemist Richard Kuhn, who had examined pieces of fiber from the picture, had concluded that there were no coloring in the fiber. Whatever produced the colors in the fibers has yet to be discovered.

More recently, experts who magnified the pupils in the image's half-closed eyes saw human images that resembled Diego, the bishop and an interpreter, who was present when the image formed on the tilma. The experts conclude that the position of the human figures were the same as when Diego showed the tilma to the bishop.

In the sixteenth century, the image of the Lady of Guadalupe, emblazoned on the banner of Spanish friars, was said to have mesmerized Rajah Tupas that he allowed the foreigners to enter Mactan and propagate the Catholic faith.

Four centuries later, the Philippines remains the only predominantly Catholic country in Asia, even if it is not the most stable or the peaceful.

Still, it is never too late to hope for another miracle, especially with the help of the Lady of Guadalupe.

Next target...

From page A25

already been informed about it and have been asked to remove the illegal structures.

"We have sent them letters. They have been given enough time," he said.

He also said some of the building owners have even been sent pictures of what they themselves could remove from the building.

Earlier, the MMDA fielded personnel armed with digital cameras to take photographs of establishments that violate the building code, especially those who have built illegal extensions or structures on the sidewalk.

The MMDA's clearing operations, which have initially focused on sidewalk vendors, have so far tended to take violent turns.

Recently, a clearing operation in perennially congested Baclaran had reportedly turned unruly after vendors started throwing some of their wares at MMDA personnel. Fortunately, no one was hurt in the incident.

Earlier this year, another clearing operation in Philcoa in Quezon City turned messy when sidewalk vendors resisted attempts by MMDA men to confiscate their wares. The vendors said the MMDA men refused to listen to them.

But the campaign had taken the most extreme turn last year, early on into the start of the clearing operations, when a police officer who was with an MMDA team in a clearing operation in Mantrade shot and killed sidewalk vendor Eladio Tuacar, who had also fired at the MMDA personnel.

Cops on alert for return of Metro vacationers

By TJ Burgonio

WHILE declaring the Holy Week observance as generally peaceful, the national police yesterday remained on full alert in view of the thousands who are motoring back from the provinces to Metro Manila starting today.

Police Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. has instructed directors in Regions 1, 3 and 4, and the Cordillera Administrative Region to deploy policemen on the national highways to ensure the safe travel of the motorists.

"They have been directed to assist the motorists," police spokesperson Senior Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil said, noting that motorists coming from Northern Luzon and Southern Tagalog are expected to jam the roads leading to the metropolis today.

He added: "Sunday will be a critical day and all police units are under orders to secure all routes and highways from the north and south all the way to Metro Manila."

Ebdane has also directed Deputy Director General Reynaldo Velasco of the National Capital Region Police Office to draw up measures in view of the expected heavy volume of vehicles in Metro Manila, according to Bataoil.

The national police went on alert last week in view of the observance of Holy Week and the exodus of people to beaches in the provinces, tightening security at the country's vital installations.

The observance of Holy Week across the country was generally peaceful, except for a couple of skirmishes between soldiers and communist rebels, police officials said.

"The assessment of the situation was generally peaceful," Bataoil said.

Teachers' exam, MATB review set

TEACHERS under Dr. Cris Rivera will give a series of lectures at the CCR-Rizal Review Center, at Feati University auditorium, Sta. Cruz, Manila, for those taking Licensure Examination for Teachers on Aug. 31, and the 2003 Management Aptitude Test Battery on June 1.

LET Summer Review Classes will be on April 26, 27, May 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, while review classes will be on June 8, 15, 22, 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug. 3 and 10. The MATB Review will be on May 21 to 24.

The Professional Regulation Commission requires applicants to pay P600.

PEA blocks Pasay move to sell off gov't lands

By Christian Esguerra

FEARING it might lose another property, the Public Estates Authority has filed an amended petition, asking the court to prevent Pasay City from placing its property on the auction block.

The government agency maintained that its property, a public domain, could not be slapped with real property tax by the local government.

"(They) are devoted (to) public use and public service," PEA general manager Teodorico Taguinod said in a letter to the INQUIRER.

"Thus, the imposition of real property taxes thereon is highly questionable."

Taguinod yesterday said the assessment of PEA's supposed tax liability has been skyrocketing because Pasay officials included even public roads in the taxable property.

PEA had initially fired a petition for a temporary restraining order last Jan. 20 after Pasay officials scheduled an auction of its property in March.

A Pasay court has set a hearing for the petition on April 29.

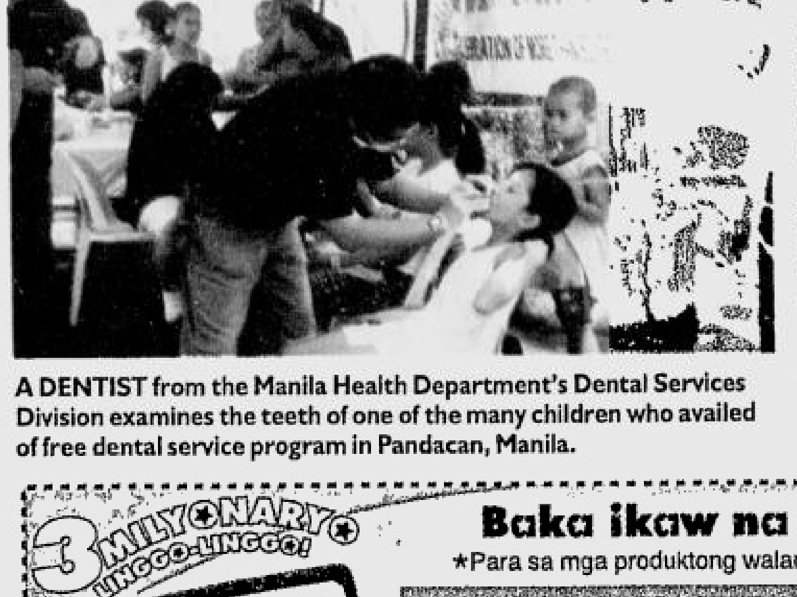
The sale did not push through because Pasay and PEA officials agreed to conduct negotiations on the realty tax dispute.

Last week, city legal officer Phil Ramos said PEA's 70-hectare Central Business Park I would be auctioned off by June to compel the agency to settle around P1.9 billion in tax obligations since 1991.

Ramos expressed confidence that the court would junk the amended petition for a TRO, insisting that the Local Government Code of 1991 waived the exemption of government owned and controlled corporations in the payment of realty tax.

A Parañaque court had rejected a similar petition by PEA and paved the way for the sale its 287-hectare property, which included parts of the controversial President Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard, in a public auction last week.

Dentists on a mission bring smiles to Manila residents


A DENTIST from the Manila Health Department's Dental Services Division examines the teeth of one of the many children who availed of free dental service program in Pandacan, Manila.

SMALL children and their elders yielded to the care of dentists in a free dental mission now being carried out in public schools and barangays in Manila's sixth district.

Caltex Philippines and the Manila Health Department's Dental Services Division joined hands to undertake the dental mission in Pandacan, Sta. Ana and Sta. Mesa.

To mark 80 years of community partnership in its host neighborhood, Caltex has decided to extend its program, which began in February in commemoration of the 53rd National Dental Health Week.

The mission provides for free dental check-up and tooth extraction, fluoride treatment, and lessons on oral hygiene and care under the total oral rehabilitation and zero-cavity program of the Manila Dental Services Division.

To date, at least 3,400 residents have benefited from the seven dental missions in six Pandacan barangays and the four public schools of J. Zamora, Bagong Diwa, Beata, and the T. Earnshaw. More than 2,100 availed of the fluoride treatment and more than 1,100 had their teeth extracted.

Dental missions in other barangays have already been scheduled.

Barangay 837 Chairman Jess Ramos and Barangay 839 Treasurer Linda Papia said that the residents "welcome this kind of assistance since it enables them to avail of a basic but important health service."

Representatives from Caltex Pandacan Terminal also turned over to Dr. Sixta Simeon, OIC of the Manila Health's Dental Services Division, an electric dental sterilizer, face towels, T-shirts, and related dental items for the dental missions.

"We hope that the free dental mission becomes an integral part of Caltex's community program in Pandacan, just like the inter-school contest the livelihood initiatives, and the environment projects," said Virginia Luz, Manila District 6 dental supervisor.

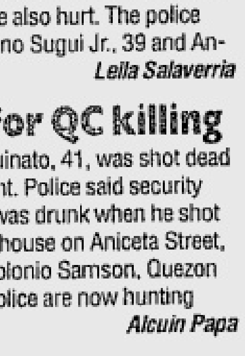
METROBRIEFS

Driver kills maid in Makati

FERNANDO Gallebo, driver of former Petron President Jose Syjuco, is in jail for allegedly raping and killing housemaid Marilou Baldemor, 22, a native of Leyte, who resisted the driver's advances inside their employer's condominium unit in Makati City on Wednesday, police said. SPO4 Leonardo Timtiman said Gallebo, 39, of Balic-Balic, Manila, surrendered to Manila Councilor Eduardo Quintos on Thursday morning. Police said Gallebo and Baldemor went to Syjuco's Domaine condominium unit on Tordesillas Street in Salcedo Village to clean it up, after dropping off their employer at the Manila Polo Club. But at around 10:30 p.m., hours after Gallebo failed to fetch his employer, Syjuco decided to go to the police and report the incident. With a police officer, Syjuco went to the condo unit in Makati and asked a locksmith to open the door. They discovered the woman's body on the floor. Upon his surrender, Gallebo told police that he had used a kitchen knife to stab Baldemor.

Leila Salaverria

Dog sparks rumble in Pasay



AN ARGUMENT over a dog sparked a free-for-all among neighbors in Pasay City on Friday night, leading to the death of Salvador Bismonte, 50, of Malibay. Police said that at around 9 p.m. on Friday, Bismonte confronted neighbor Alejandro Sugui about his pet dog who had allegedly bitten three members of Bismonte's family in three days. But Sugui did not like what Bismonte was saying, and soon, the two men were joined by their respective families. Police said a rumble broke out where Bismonte was stabbed several times. He was declared dead on arrival at the Pasay City General Hospital. In the melee, two members of the Sugui family were also hurt. The police are now questioning Marcelino Sugui Jr., 39 and Antonio Bismonte, 22.

Leila Salaverria

Guard sought for QC killing

FACTORY worker Johnny Luinato, 41, was shot dead in Quezon City the other night. Police said security guard Joseph Lusanta, 28, was drunk when he shot Luinato outside the victim's house on Aniceta Street, Kaingin Road, Barangay Apolonio Samson, Quezon City at around 11:45 p.m. Police are now hunting down the suspect.

Alcuin Papa

Careless robber shoots self

FOUR robbers struck at a cell phone and imported goods store in Muntinlupa City yesterday and left behind a bloody trail. Police said one of the suspects wounded himself when he carelessly fired a warning shot with a .22 pistol. Police said drops of blood were discovered in the vicinity of the R en L imported dry goods store on the National Road at 11: 45 a.m. yesterday. Police said hospitals in the area are on alert for persons with gunshot wounds. Before the robbers fled, they managed to take P62,000 from the cash register, assorted cell cards, several pieces of the latest cell phone models and other imported items.

Leila Salaverria

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When elections are near, can bio-pics be far behind?

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

WHEN a politician or a government official sells his life story to be made into a movie, chances are he is running for election. And with the 2004 national elections just a year away, expect a spathe of film-bios soon.

Now comes "Chavit: Bloodson of Ilocos," the story of former Ilocos Sur governor **Chavit Singson**, to be produced by Golden Lion Films and directed by **Carlo J. Caparas.**

However, even if Chavit has been asked to run for senator or even for president in 2004, he is not biting. Or, he has not. He chooses to remain silent and uncommitted.

Move over, Sen. **Ramon Revilla**. Chavit also has an amulet, which he says made him survive the six ambush attempts on his life.

"You survive one slay try in your life and you're darn lucky," Caparas says. "Twice and you're extra lucky. But to survive more ambuscades, you're an exception to the rule of survival.

"In those ambush attempts, hundreds of bullets were spent, shrapnel from grenades killed 11 people and wounded nearly 500 others. Chavit escaped with only a bruise in the elbow. Using his friend's .45 caliber, he managed to eliminate some of his killers, which only movie action heroes have been known to do. That was what attracted us to Chavit's story."

Some people, especially his townmates in Ilocos Sur, surmised that Chavit survived those attempts on his life because of his amulet or *anting-anting*. But Chavit never said a word about any amulet.

"Pure luck, or maybe I just reacted accordingly," he says. "You cannot avoid a bullet meant for you. I was really just lucky it didn't hit me."

Chavit's life is also checkered not only by those bloody attempts but also by his encounters with other powerful men in Ilocos. He first got enmeshed in Ilocos Sur politics in the late 1960s. The episode involving political kingpin **Floro Crisologo** left a bloody trail and gruesome tales in the memory of the people of Ilocos Sur.

Floro ruled Ilocos Sur as governor for 25 years. His son is **Vincent "Bingbong" Crisologo**, who was jailed for setting on fire the villages Ora Este, Weste and Centro in Bantay town. In prison, Bingbong became a born-again Christian minister.

Floro won as Ilocos Sur governor against Chavit in 1967 but was assassinated in the St. Paul Metropolitan Cathedral in Vigan.

Chavit was elected governor in 1971 and has not lost an election since. For more than two decades, he was either governor or congressman of the first district of Ilocos Sur. The Singson clan has ruled Ilocos Sur since 1931.

To restore peace and order in Ilocos Sur, Chavit interceded for the release of Bingbong in 1980, upon the prodding of former President **Ferdinand Marcos** and First Lady **Imelda Marcos.**

In 2001, Chavit was instrumental in the ouster of former President **Joseph Estrada.** Chavit's "Juetengate" confessions led to another people power revolt that was Edsa Dos.

Says Caparas: "The amulet, if he has it, can protect Chavit from blades and bullets, but it cannot shield him from the threat of the most lethal attack ever known to man: intrigue."

So what's next for Chavit?

"I am contented just to be a spectator looking from the outside," he maintains.

Caparas got interested on the life of Chavit Singson as early as 1985, but no deal was made for the director to get the film rights. Recently, Caparas signified his intention again to do Chavit's life story and with the help of former actress **Daisy Romualdez**, the project materialized.

Golden Lion Films spares no amount in casting for the bio-pic. Co-producing the film is **Clavel Vendaña**, Chavit's close friend.

Award-winning actor **Cesar Montano** plays Chavit Singson and is said to be the personal choice of the former governor.

The Chavit movie comes on the heels of Cesar's first Hollywood film, "The Great Raid," filmed in the Gold Coast, Australia and directed by **John Dahl.** It will be shown in the United States in summer.

Cesar has previously done three projects for Golden Lion Films—"Antipolo Massacre" and "Annabelle Huggins Story" both with **Dawn Zulueta**, and "Lilian Velez Story," with **Sharon Cuneta.**

Also in the cast of "Chavit: Bloodson of Ilocos" are **Eddie Garcia** as Floro Crisologo, **Tirso Cruz III** as Bingbong and **Dina Bonnevie** as Evelyn Singson, with **Joel Torre** and **Danita Paner.**

Caparas and his producer-wife **Donna Villa** will still have to cast the four presidents—Marcos, **Cory Aquino, Fidel Ramos** and Joseph Estrada—who ruled throughout the highlights of Chavit's life.

The Chavit bio-pic also comes on the heels of "The Cory Quirino Kidnap Story," another film-bio directed by Caparas.

"I said I was going to take a vacation after doing Cory's movie," Caparas says. "But this chance is hard to pass up. When you're a writer and you hear about the life of Chavit Singson, your mind will not stop working, trying to create a screenplay with the highlights of his life."

'Teleserye' themes on CD

THE THEME songs of ABS-CBN's popular tele-series "Pangako sa 'Yo," "Hanggang sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan," "Sana'y Maghintay ang Walang Hanggan," "Kung Kailangan Mo Ako," "Saan Ka Man Naroroon" and "(Sa Puso Ko) Iingatan Ka" have been released by Star Records in a repackaged album.

Completing the package are the themes from the other ABS-CBN shows like "Flames," "Labs Ko si Babe" and "G-Mik."

"Langit na Bituin" from "Bituin" was written by **Raul Mitra** and **Cacai Velasquez** and recorded by **Carol Banawa.**

"Sana'y Maghintay ang Walang Hanggan" from "Kay Tagal Kang Hinintay" is performed by **Lhei Bella**. It was written by **Willy Cruz** and **Baby Gil.**

"Pangako sa 'Yo" from the series of the same title is performed by **Kristine Hermosa** and **Jericho Rosales**, and composed by **Rey Valera.**

"Recuerdo de Amor" is sung by **Jessa Zaragoza**. It was written by **Homer Flores.**

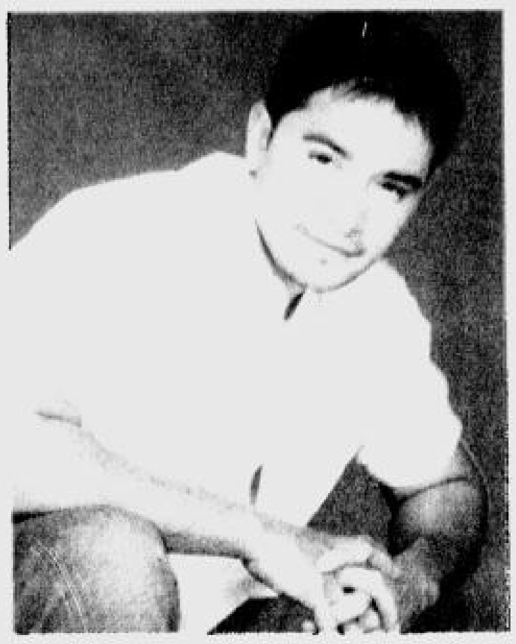
"Iingatan Ka," from the **Judy Ann Santos** and **Piolo Pascual soap**, "Sa Puso Ko Iingatan Ka," is recorded by Carol Banawa and written by **Marizen Yaneza.**

"Saan Ka Man Naroroon" penned by the late National Artist for Music **Levi Celerio**, is sung by **Dessa.**

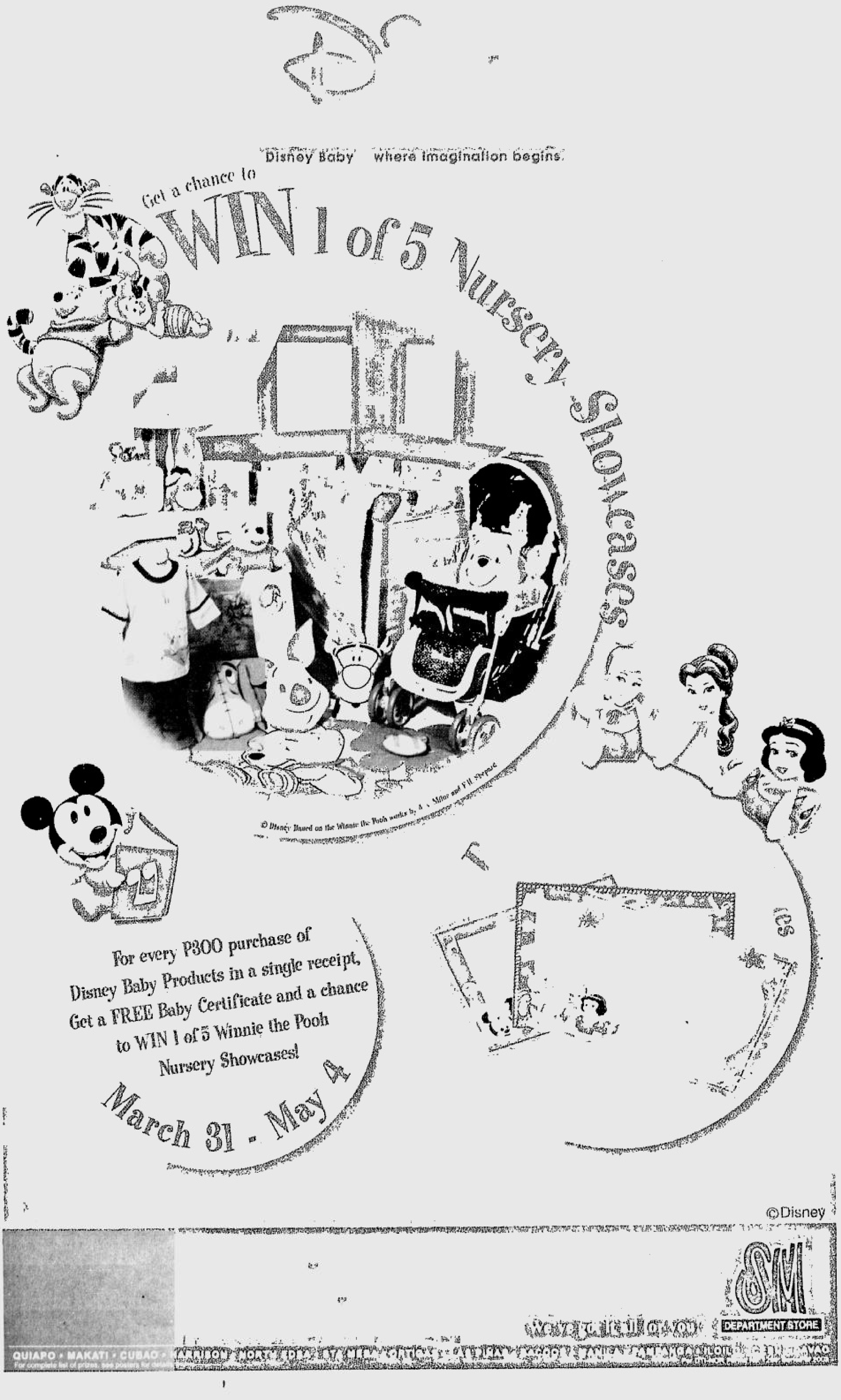
Vehnee Saturno's "Nasaan ang Puso Mo" from "Nagmamahal Pa Rin sa 'Yo" is recorded by **Pops Fernandez**. Saturno also wrote "Mula sa Puso," from the series of the same title, which is sung by **Roselle Nava.**

Ara Mina performed "Kung Kailangan Mo Ako" from "Sa Sandaling Kailangan Mo Ako." The song was written by **Rey Valera.**

CHARMED LIFE. Chavit Singson has survived several attempts on his life, prompting people to think he has an amulet.



CHAVIT'S CHOICE. Cesar Montano plays the man who brought down Erap in the bio-pic to be directed by Carlo J. Caparas.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'WHAT A GIRL WANTS'

Self-help movie on girl power

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

REVIEW

CINDERELLA has had many avatars, and this time she figuratively inhabits the body of a 17-year-old American, Daphne Reynolds (Amanda Bynes). She's looking not for her prince but for an English father she never knew. And yes, a young, noble prince also gets involved in her quest.

Daphne's musician mother Libby (Kelly Preston) raised her alone in New York after an ill-fated whirlwind romance with blue-blooded Brit Henry Dashwood (Colin Firth) many years ago. Diligent young Daphne works as a reception waitress, accompanying her wedding singer mother as often as she possibly can, just one of the signs of their mature, squabble-free bond.

But every time she watches the reception's father-daughter dance, she feels incomplete, yearning for the mystery man who never came to any of her birthdays no matter how hard she wished before blowing the candles of her cake. She sets out alone for England to look for him, a man who doesn't even know she exists.

Cookie cutter

Armed with an old picture of Henry and her birth certificate, Daphne breaks into his rather poorly guarded mansion, and reveals her identity as well as those of her parents. This discovery understandably comes as a shock to Henry, but even more so to his two-faced fiancée (Anna Chancellor), her daughter (Christina Cole), and his political adviser (Jonathan Pryce).

Daphne is allowed to spend the summer in her father's manor, to be introduced in a host of social events, for and by the British elite. She naturally spreads around cheerful, all-American candidness through all these stiff gatherings. She finally gets to know her dad, and also finds Prince Charming in a band vocalist, Ian (Oliver James). She does all these, while trying to outwit her scheming, would-be stepmom and stepsister.

Targeted for adolescent girls with fairy tale sensibilities, "What a Girl Wants" is a cookie-cutter self-help movie about being true to oneself, following one's road, and girl-power confidence. In this case, these things basically mean dance, have countless dress-ups, be extra-cheerful, and dance some more. Girls just wanna have fun, ad nauseam.

Worn out

It's wish fulfillment in a snap: finding a long-lost relative who accepts you unconditionally (and is filthy rich at that), finding a gentlemanly boyfriend (and who's extremely talented, to boot), and changing people for the better (not all Brits have a stiff upper lip, it seems). Daphne is just one blessed, life-of-the-party miracle worker.

Nickelodeon's Amanda Bynes, the very gifted child comedienne from "The Amanda Show" and "All That," is popular with many viewers of the kid-geared cable channel. She's one of those child actors unafraid to look ugly and ridiculous, and wearing unflattering wigs and uttering angry monologues have become second-nature to her. Now a young woman, she's being packaged as a glammed-up actress with more typical mainstream roles.

She sheds her over-the-top quirks to play an everygirl (a pretty everygirl), and while she's still unquestionably gifted, she inevitably gets eaten by the movie's worn-out material. Do we root for her character? Not at all, because we know she gets rewarded with what's rightfully hers before the story ends.

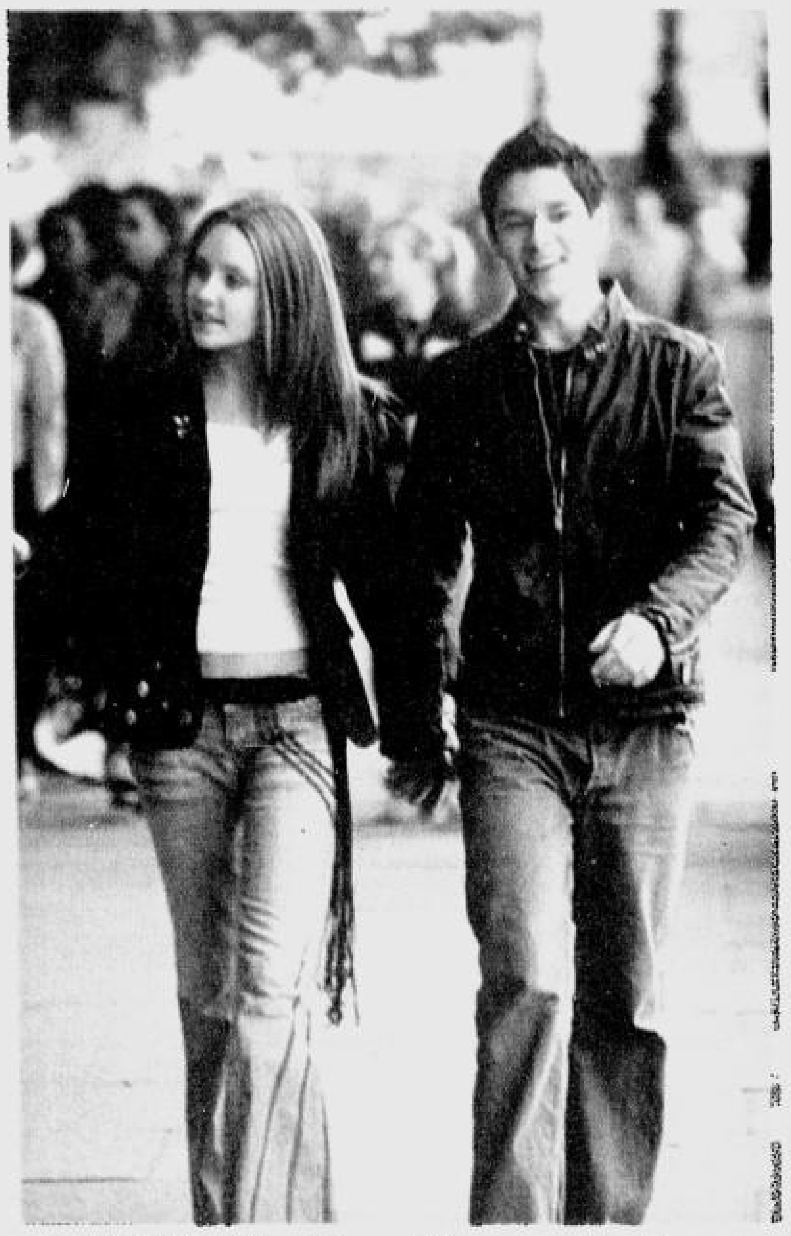
Decent cast

There are just so many scenes that show her infecting everyone with her perkiness, encouraging them to get in touch with their inner, fun-loving Yankees. Daphne has got plenty of instances where she bonds with her father, inspiring him to ride a motorcycle like he used to during more carefree times, among other things. She also dances, quite irritatingly, to almost every upbeat song that gets played in the movie.

Its cast is a decent one: Firth, Pryce, Preston and James make the best of their requisite roles, although, like Bynes, it's hard to feel anything for their characters.

Strangely, however, a sizable portion of the audience keeps laughing uncontrollably at the juvenile, painfully predictable humor. Well, to each his own. I suppose I should be grateful the protagonist wasn't a geeky ugly duckling who transformed into a drop-dead gorgeous heiress after a makeover and some lessons in etiquette.

But wait, I think that was last year's teen Cinderella movie. I just couldn't care less about remembering its title.



FAIRY TALE. Nickelodeon's Amanda Bynes plays a life-of-the-party miracle worker with Oliver James.

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Russel Crowe, bride honeymoon in motel, dine on budget chicken

BRISBANE, Australia—Oscar winning star Russell Crowe is honeymooning in style—Australian style, that is.

Over the weekend, the "Gladiator" star and his new wife, Danielle Spencer, stayed in a motel in the city of Rockhampton on Australia's east coast and dined on takeaway fried chicken, a local newspaper reported Monday.

After a lavish wedding ceremony at his estate near the coastal resort of Coff's Harbor last Monday, the Crowes are now on a "self-drive honeymoon" around Australia, Brisbane's Courier-Mail newspaper reported alongside a photograph of the newlyweds outside the Red Rooster chicken restaurant in Rockhampton.

On Friday night, the couple were spotted at Sumatra's, a Rockhampton restaurant which promotes itself as serving "tasty affordable meals" starting at five Australian dollars (US$3).

While the coast of Queensland is dotted with upscale resorts and towns set up to cater for tourists, Rockhampton, about 550 kilometers north of state capital Brisbane, is known as the "beef capital of Australia" because of the huge cattle herds owned by local ranchers.

While enjoying a A$12.95 (US$7.80) bottle of house wine, Crowe signed autographs for locals outside a bar and chatted briefly before he and Spencer drove off in their Mercedes.

Catherine Dowson was given Russell Crowe's autograph on the back of a free drink voucher and she tucked it into her pack of cigarettes. *AP*

MR. AND MRS. Crowe

ATAPUSAN NA BA NG TILA WALANG WAKAS NA ALITAN?
O SIMULA NG MAS MATINDING SAGUPAAN?
Alamin ang kasagutan sa pagbubukas ng
ANG IIBIGIN AY
IKAW PA RIN
ON na tayo!
ABANGAN
GMA TELEBABAD

'Terminator' to host special on heroes and villains

LOS ANGELES—Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has portrayed robots both killing and kindly, will host an upcoming TV special about the screen's top 100 heroes and villains.

An American Film Institute poll asked voters to choose among 400 nominated characters from American film history and decide which should be considered wicked or virtuous.

Schwarzenegger's T-800 killer robot is nominated twice, once for the attacking character he played in the 1984 original "The Terminator," and again for "Terminator 2: Judgment Day," in 1991, in which he played an android who was a protector.

The show is scheduled for June 3 on CBS television.

AFI has sent ballots to nearly 1,500 directors, actors, studio executives, critics and others in the entertainment industry.

Some characters are nominated en masse, such as the zombies from 1968's "Night of the Living Dead" and "The Wild Bunch" cowboys from director Sam Peckinpah's 1969 western. *AP*

SCHWARZENEGGER

No soccer experience necessary

WASHINGTON—When she was being considered for the starring role in "Bend It Like Beckham," Parminder Nagra told the director she had a little experience playing soccer.

She really hadn't.

"It was my first experience in what it was like to play soccer even a little bit," said Nagra, who had to train for two months before filming could start.

"There were times I was thinking, 'Why exactly am I doing this?' Fortunately, it has been worth it."

Nagra, 27, stars with Keira Knightley in the British comedy about soccer-playing girls. The two were in Washington over the weekend to meet pro soccer star Mia Hamm.

Knightley's character idolizes Hamm in the film, while Nagra's character is obsessed with Manchester United star David Beckham.

The movie, directed and co-written by Gurinder Chadha, is Britain's top-grossing homegrown film with earnings equivalent to about $17 million. *AP*

'Chicago' is biggest Miramax hit

LOS ANGELES—Not only did the movie musical "Chicago" win a best picture Oscar, it also set a box-office record for the movie studio that produced it.

Miramax Film studio on Tuesday said its movie about an actress whose murderous ways make her a media darling, claimed the title of the most successful box-office film ever for the Walt Disney Co. unit with domestic ticket sales of $157.1 million. "Chicago," which stars Renee Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Richard Gere, narrowly beat comedy "Scary Movie" ($157 million), and "Good Will Hunting" ($139 million).

In March, "Chicago" earned the Academy Award for best motion picture, and five other Oscars including one for best supporting actress for Zeta-Jones. *Reuters*

14 make it to MTV VJ Hunt '03

AND THEN there are 14.

MTV Philippines has announced that 14 finalists have been chosen from among thousands of aspirants in the nationwide search MTV VJ Hunt 2003, which will culminate in the grand finals night on May 16 in Intramuros, Manila.

The seven bubbly, charming and beautiful young men and women were chosen in an extensive countrywide search by MTV. They are Patricia Benedicto, Reema Chanco, Kym de Guzman, Patty Laurel, Alla Nahas, Aliya Parcs, Toni Taus, and Kelly Davis; Johann Ekedum, Greg Martin, Edward Mendez, Jeff Rodriguez, Chase Tinio, and Nino Tupas.

These VJ aspirants will make key local media appearances in the weeks to come.

The 2003 MTV VJ Hunt is presented by Gatsby, Samsung DigitALL, STI, and also by Bambini Cologne and Smart Communications, and in part by John Robert Powers, Lux Super Rich Shampoo, Manila Bulletin, Philippine Airlines, The Philippine Star, Piandre, Loreal Paris, SM Supermalls, 89.9 WTM, Joey @ 92.3, Klite 103.5, 939 I-fm, RX 93.1, Charlie @ 101.9, Sunstar Newspaper, the Department of Tourism and U by Rustans.

SIX of the 14 VJ hunt finalists. Who'll survive the grand finals?

PITT STOP
Actor Brad Pitt poses with his actress wife Jennifer Aniston (left) and her "Friends" co-star Courtney Cox Arquette at the "Friends Finding a Cure" gala in honor of producer Brad Grey in Beverly Hills.

REGATTA MODEL
Ria Bolivar is the first Model of the Year of the Iloilo Regatta. She was crowned by Jamby Madrigal during the recent 31st edition of the Iloilo-Guimaras Paraw Regatta, where more than 60 *paraw* sailboats competed for line honors. Madrigal, former presidential adviser for children's affairs, was in Iloilo City for the Western Visayas launch of the Abad Santos-Madrigal Foundation's nationwide reflexology livelihood training program, the foundation's flagship project. With Madrigal above is her French husband, Eric Valade.

Silk & Steel fill Merk's with hits tomorrow

WHERE were you when this song was number one?

You can answer this often-heard line on radio when you watch the live performance of Silk & Steel at Merk's Bar Bistro in Greenbelt 3 tomorrow night, Monday.

The triumvirate of Helen Burdeos on vocals and rhythm guitar, Renato "Nato" Llamas on vocals and bass guitar, and Alfredo Francisco "Koko" Marbella on vocals and lead guitar bring the audience down memory lane with their takes on the hits of James Taylor, Cat Stevens, Kenny Rankin, Marvin Gale, Carole King, Bread and Don Mclean.

If songs like "Make It With You," "Guitar Man," "You've Got a Friend," "Fire and Rain," and "Follow Your Road" are your cup of tea, then start your week right by catching Silk & Steel at Merk's Bar Bistro on Level 3 of Greenbelt 3 at the Ayala Center in Makati City.

Merk's Bar Bistro also features the country cuisine of LJC's Bistro Remedios.

For details, call 757-4721.

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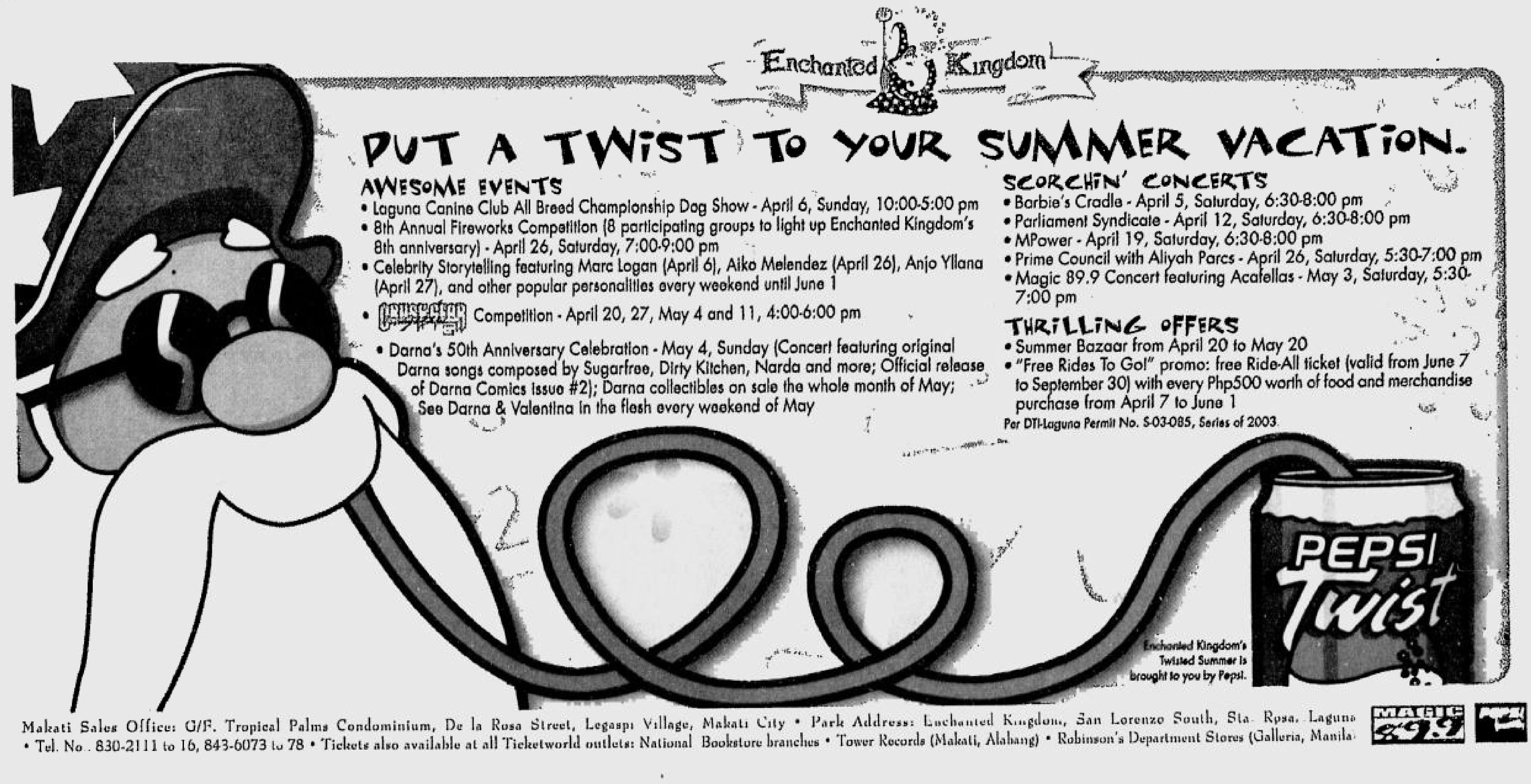
Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1460 Series of 2003

APRIL 23-30, 2003



Enchanted Kingdom

PUT A TWIST TO YOUR SUMMER VACATION.

AWESOME EVENTS
- Laguna Canine Club All Breed Championship Dog Show - April 6, Sunday, 10:00-5:00 pm
- 8th Annual Fireworks Competition (8 participating groups to light up Enchanted Kingdom's 8th anniversary) - April 26, Saturday, 7:00-9:00 pm
- Celebrity Storytelling featuring Marc Logan (April 6), Aiko Melendez (April 26), Anjo Yllana (April 27), and other popular personalities every weekend until June 1
- Competition - April 20, 27, May 4 and 11, 4:00-6:00 pm
- Darna's 50th Anniversary Celebration - May 4, Sunday (Concert featuring original Darna songs composed by Sugarfree, Dirty Kitchen, Narda and more; Official release of Darna Comics Issue #2); Darna collectibles on sale the whole month of May; See Darna & Valentina in the flesh every weekend of May

SCORCHIN' CONCERTS
- Barbie's Cradle - April 5, Saturday, 6:30-8:00 pm
- Parliament Syndicate - April 12, Saturday, 6:30-8:00 pm
- MPower - April 19, Saturday, 6:30-8:00 pm
- Prime Council with Aliyah Parcs - April 26, Saturday, 5:30-7:00 pm
- Magic 89.9 Concert featuring Acafellas - May 3, Saturday, 5:30-7:00 pm

THRILLING OFFERS
- Summer Bazaar from April 20 to May 20
- "Free Rides To Go!" promo: free Ride-All ticket (valid from June 7 to September 30) with every Php500 worth of food and merchandise purchase from April 7 to June 1

Per DTI-Laguna Permit No. S-03-085, Series of 2003

Enchanted Kingdom's Twisted Summer is brought to you by Pepsi.

Makati Sales Office: G/F. Tropical Palms Condominium, De la Rosa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City • Park Address: Enchanted Kingdom, San Lorenzo South, Sta. Rosa, Laguna • Tel. No. 830-2111 to 16, 843-6073 to 78 • Tickets also available at all Ticketworld outlets: National Bookstore branches • Tower Records (Makati, Alabang) • Robinson's Department Stores (Galleria, Manila

DA CAPO PLAYS FOR 'THE GOOD LIFE' PARTY
Instrumental group Da Capo provided entertainment during "The Good Life" cocktail party of the Community Innovations, Inc. (CII) for buyers of The Columns, an Ayala Land subsidiary. CII also marked the sales launch of Tower 2 of The Columns, a residential condominium complex on Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat., which responds to the "good life" aspirations of young urban achievers.

ESCAPE PERFORMS AT DISH
Escape Band performs with newest singing sensation Malik on April 21 (Monday), 9 p.m. at Dish. Groove to the beat of their pop, R and B, and soulful renditions of favorite hits. Dish is at Level 3 of the Power Plant Mall Rockwell Center, Makati City. For reservations and inquiries, call 898-1771 or 898-1824.

New leadership

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

LOCAL show biz is so focused on gossip, controversies and scandals that it overlooks many of the truly significant developments on the entertainment scene.

One of these major developments is the change of guard that has been taking place slowly but surely in the industry's leadership.

Time was when practically all of the biz's organizations were headed by producers. While some of them did good, selfless work for the industry, many entertainment people felt that, to be truly representative of the wishes and needs of the majority, most of the industry's top leaders should come from the ranks of entertainment workers.

For decades, however, the status quo remained. But, starting last year, some major changes have been happening in this regard:

When the Film Development Council of the Philippines was created by law, Pres. **Arroyo** chose for its first chairperson, not a producer, bu director-actor-screenwriter **Laurice Guillen.**

When the position of executive director at the Movie Workers Welfare Foundation became vacant, it was filled by actor **Boots Anson-Roa.**

And, a few months ago, Pres. Arroyo appointed the new secretary general of the Film Academy of the Philippines, actor **Leo Martinez.**

We trust that these significant changes in the movie industry's leadership will redound to the benefit of film workers and their audience. And that other show biz fields dominated by producers will also be more worker-oriented in its leadership in the months and years to come.

That's the really big news on the local entertainment scene, not who's sleeping with whom.

—Happy Easter, everyone!

Movies on TV

ON HBO: Sunday, April 20 at 9 a.m., "Gladiator." 2 p.m., "Havana." 11:30 p.m., "Snow Falling on Cedars." Monday, April 21 at 5:30 p.m., "King Solomon's Mines." Tuesday, April 22 at 6 a.m., "Hanover Street." 8:30 p.m., "Little Nicky." 10 p.m., "The Mind of the Married Man: Finale Special."

Wednesday, April 23 at 12:15 p.m., "Enemy at the Gates." Thursday, April 24 at 7:45 a. m., "Wit." 4 p.m., "The Cowboy Way."

Friday, April 25 at 3:30 p.m., "Love & Basketball." 9 p.m., "Miss Congeniality." 12:45 a.m., "Kylie Minogue: Fever 2002 Live." 1:50 a.m., "Gladiator." Saturday, April 26 at 5 p.m., "Snow Falling on Cedars." 9 p.m., "Hearts in Atlantis." 10:45 p.m., "The Mind of the Married Man: Finale Special."

On the Cinemax channel: Sunday, April 20 at 6 a.m., "Suspect." 11:30 a.m., Lorenzo's Oil." 7 p.m., "Witness." Monday, April 21 at 6:30 a.m., "Paint Your Wagon." 9 p.m., "Geronimo." 4:15 a.m., "Boyz N the Hood."

Tuesday, April 22 at 9 a.m., "Mission: Impossible, 2." Wednesday, April 23 at 3:30 a.m., "Cinema Secrets: Amazing Creatures."

Thursday, April 24 at 10 a.m., "Cinema Secrets: Remaking Reality." 2 a.m., "Once Upon a Time in the West." Friday, April 25 at 9:30 a.m., "The Secret Garden." 4 p.m., "The Flood: Who will Save Our Children?" Saturday, April 26 at 8:15 a.m., "Cinema Secrets: Visions of the Future."

'The Matrix' sequels

THE MUCH-anticipated sequels to "The Matrix" will hit the screen this year. "The Matrix Reloaded" opens on May 15. It begins where the first movie left off: The machines who rule the earth have discovered the location of the last human city hidden near the planet's core.

The humans have only 72 hours before they are to be blown up by thousands of squid probes. Their only hope is the mysterious figure known as the keymaker, who is being guarded by a pair of unnaturally white assassins who can vanish and reappear like ghosts.

Meanwhile, "The Matrix Revolutions," which will be shown later this year, is about the final, all-out war between humans and machines. It unfolds in the smoking ruins of the world of the future.

Both sequels were filmed in 2001 and 2002. Following seven of principal photography in California, a marathon 270-day shooting schedule commenced in Australia. The process was shrouded in secrecy, and even the stars saw only a few scraps of film by the end of the production's principal photography.

Speaking of stars, the sequels still topbill **Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne** and **Carrie-Ann Moss**, but they've been joined by new talents like **Jada Pinkett Smith** (as Niobe), **Lung Yun Chow** (as a Buddha-like figure named Seraph) and **Monica Bellucci** (as Persephone, a deadly temptress who has her eyes on Reeve's character, Neo).

'Musikgarten'

THIS summer, **Ryan Cayabyab** the Music Studio offers "Musikgarten," a course that develops a child's musical capabilities and understanding. Children are introduced to the basic elements of music through a variety of activities that emphasize ear training, rhythmic movement, singing and dramatization. The course is open to children 3-7 years old. Classes start April 22.

The studio also offers a special course, "Vocal Performance Workshop in Musical Theater." The repertoire-based workshop teaches techniques used in singing songs from stage musicals. For students 13 years and older. Classes start April 22. Call 843-2874.

Disney's 'Jungle Book 2' inspires Happy Meal toys

MCDONALD'S brings to its Happy Meal collection the characters of the best-loved animated classics of all time, Disney's "The Jungle Book 2."

Collect all six character-designs, one toy in every Happy Meal. It includes Mowgli (boy), Baloo (bear), Shanti (girl), Shere Khan (tiger), Lucky (vulture) and Kaa (snake).

Each character comes with materials to build a jungle house.

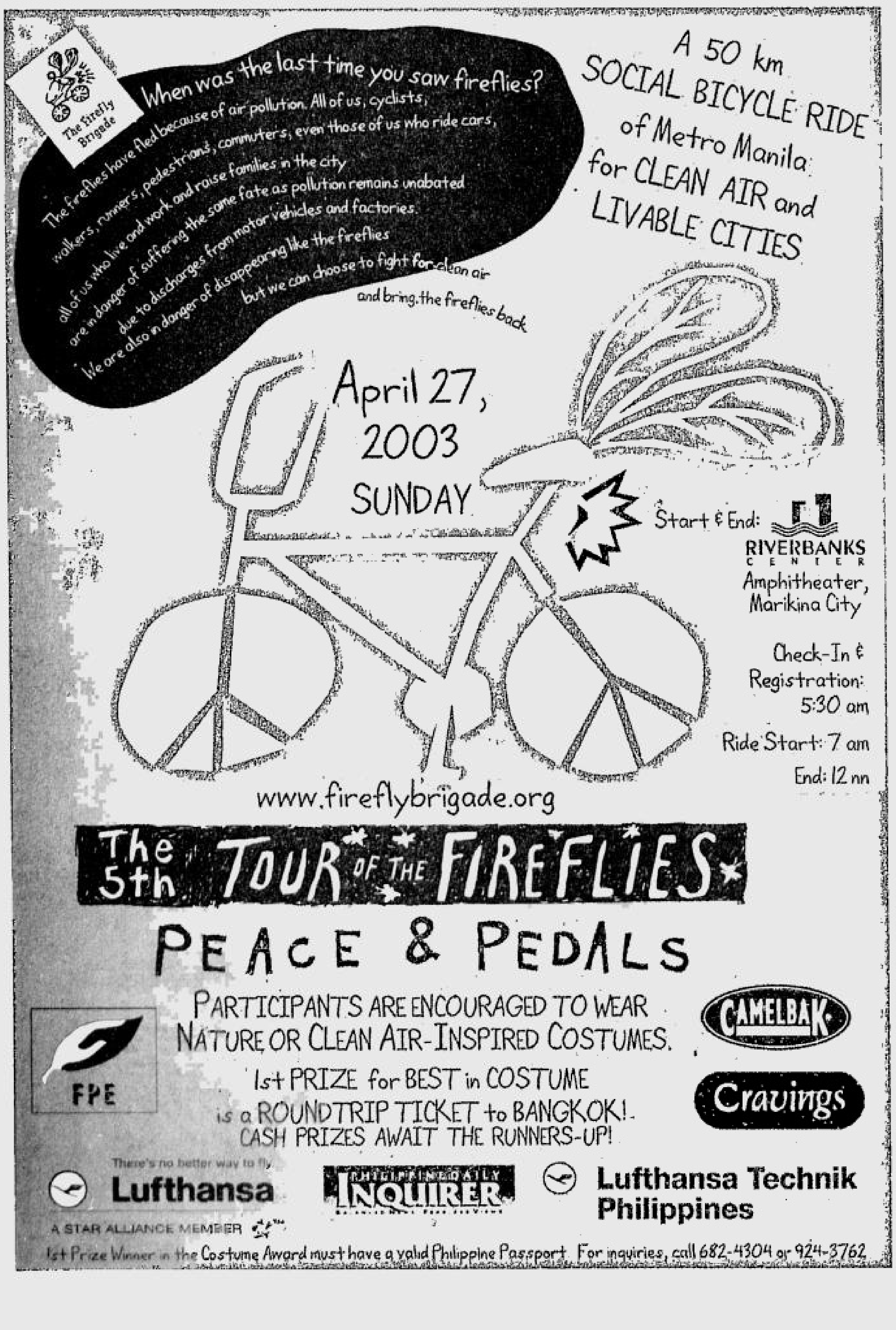
The all-new chapter of "Jungle Book 2" is an adventure packed with thrills, songs and fun for the entire family.

In the story, Mowgli now lives in the man-village, but he misses his pal Baloo, who likewise pines for his little man-cub.

Baloo isn't the only one hoping to see Mowgli again soon. Shere Khan, the tiger, impatiently awaits his revenge.

When Mowgli sneaks away to the jungle, the chase is on to see who will find him first—his old pals, his new family or the man-eating tiger.

"The Jungle Book" Happy Meal promo is on until May 7.



The Firefly Brigade
When was the last time you saw fireflies?
The fireflies have fled because of air pollution. All of us, cyclists, walkers, runners, pedestrians, commuters, even those of us who ride cars, all of us who live and work and raise families in the city are in danger of suffering the same fate as pollution remains unabated due to discharges from motor vehicles and factories.
We are also in danger of disappearing like the fireflies but we can choose to fight for clean air and bring the fireflies back
A 50 km SOCIAL BICYCLE RIDE of Metro Manila for CLEAN AIR and LIVABLE CITIES
April 27, 2003 SUNDAY
Start & End: RIVERBANKS CENTER Amphitheater, Marikina City
Check-In & Registration: 5:30 am
Ride Start: 7 am
End: 12 nn
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PEACE & PEDALS
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Towards resurrection

From page A31

ion of the Savior, when the whole point was "the resurrection." But it was in one ear and out the other for us siblings, for we envied -- and boy, did we envy—Catholic neighbors for the rituals and the feast days of their church.

We longed for bells that rang in belfries, incense at Mass, the washing of the feet, the *salubong, simbang-gabi*, the works. We wished for agonized representations of the crucified Christ to render the less pious among us guilty, hoped to see saints on our altars that weren't altars but merely lecterns from which our pastors delivered homilies.

'Gabi ng Lagim'

And we didn't stop there. We likewise aspired to have pastors that looked like priests and not lawyers in threadbare *barongs*.

This was the period when "Gabi ng Lagim" was staple horror television fare on Channel 11 and my brother Bimboy and I felt that Catholics had protection against evil, whereas we didn't. On TV, they painted white crosses on wooden doors and vampires wouldn't enter; showed rosaries and flung holy water that burned *mananggals* to ashes; and made signs of the cross that scared the creatures of the dark from attacking.

We Protestant kids had nothing to ward out fears, outside of the non-sectarian *bawang* against witches and the inversion of shirts against warlocks of the *kapre* and *tikbalang* kind.

God's children

At that age, we didn't realize that a personal relationship with God through prayer was all that mattered. We needed props to make the spiritual tangible, to constantly assure us we were indeed children of God.

Catholic children had first communion rites, and along with it the hoopla of white dress and white veil for girls and an all-white shirt and trousers ensemble for boys; the round wafer that was supposed to either melt on your tongue if you were good and admitted everything but everything during confession, or burn and cause your tongue to swell up if you were bad and secretly coveted your schoolmate's pencil case; but above all you got a picture that was framed and put on top of the piano, with you there looking so angelic with hands up in prayer position and holding a rosary. It was bad enough we didn't have a piano; it was worse for me because I couldn't even have the picture.

Protestant children do not have saints, but Philippine TV for all the Holy Weeks of my childhood did re-runs of "Song of Bernadette," the 1943 film that garnered nine Academy Award nominations and won the Best Actress Oscar for actress Jennifer Jones. The die was cast: I yearned to be Marie Bernarde Soubirous, the 14-year-old shepherdess who had a vision of the Virgin Mary in the grotto of Massabielle in Lourdes in 1858.

Waiting for the Lady

The problem was there was no nook, no cranny that remotely resembled Lourdes to the left, right, front and back of us. There was, on the other side of the giant water line, a densely populated squatter area adjacent to the old Sta. Mesa Market, where SM Centerpoint now stands, and we decided the Virgin wasn't likely to show up there.

But the Bernadette wannabe and her loyal troop of two, a cousin and a brother, discovered a spot on top of the incline of the water line that stretched all the way to Braulio Sto. Domingo's territory, San Juan, near the old La Pacita Bakery, parallel to the San Juan Bridge where the first shot of the Filipino-American War was fired, and shrouded from open view by bamboo foliage.

For four Holy Weeks we trudged there, while in between people stood in line for RCA rice, some guys' heads were axed off in some RCA *bodega*, Annabelle Huggins was raped, and a pope died.

Names and incidents flew above our heads as we waited for the lady in white with the blue sash to appear, or for the sun to dance in the sky as the Bernadette movie claimed would happen.

Granny warnings

During the long wait, year after year, we saw muscled, tattooed men from the squatter area with heads wrapped in rags, whipping shards of glass or slivers of bamboo on vinegar-drenched backs and sweating blood. We were mortified at how their offspring would watch them do penance so unimpressed, and so clearly bored.

We ached to be them: I, particularly, whose sense of drama derived from radio soap operas and reading Liwayway, craved for denouement above the ordinary.

Already Carol, Zabeth, and Eleanor, the Guerrero girls who went to St. Theresa's College, had me enthralled with stories of how the Pope that died in 1963 was replaced by cardinals who holed up in some building where there was a chimney that would emit black smoke that meant no new pope yet, and white smoke that meant a pope had finally been chosen.

Their *Lola* Tek's season caveats never failed to grip me: "Don't play. If you get wounded, it will never heal." "Don't take a bath, Jesus is dead." "Jump three times on Easter Sunday when Christ is risen; you will grow tall."

Joseph 'Bigote'

The Virgin never came, of course.

My cousin Charito blamed the squatters who relieved themselves so openly on the water line, dotted the *tubo* section above the Pasig River with clumps of poo that didn't smell as bad in the open air, but would surely have stained the hem of the Lady's white dress.

I blamed no one; the whole thing was beginning to pall. I had, by then, read "The Diary of Anne Frank," and started to think of myself as Jewish.

In the summer of '66, over at the *sari-sari* store there was talk that Joseph *Bigote* was going to run for mayor against Boyong but was going to have a tough time because the Iglesia ni Cristo didn't like him. A guy old folks called Marcos was chanting "'Lis d'yan!" at the president whose wife was named Eva and their daughter was named Gloria. The Mayor of Manila was doing "Yeba!"

Sampaguita Pictures launched Rosemarie, Gina Pareño, Shirley Moreno, Blanca Gomez, Loretta Marquez, the Rodriguez brothers Ramil and Pepito, Dindo Fernando, Bert Leroy Jr. and Edgar Salcedo into stardom.

How to see a movie

In January of the same year, my gang and I had wanted to see a Susan Roces double feature at the Embassy Theater at the corner of Ramon Magsaysay Boulevard and Pureza, near the Thomas Jefferson Library, which became the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

We had no money and double features cost 25 centavos. A classmate at the P. Burgos Elementary School chortled this was no problem, all we had to do was go see Among the old priest in his house near Stop & Shop and make up a confession.

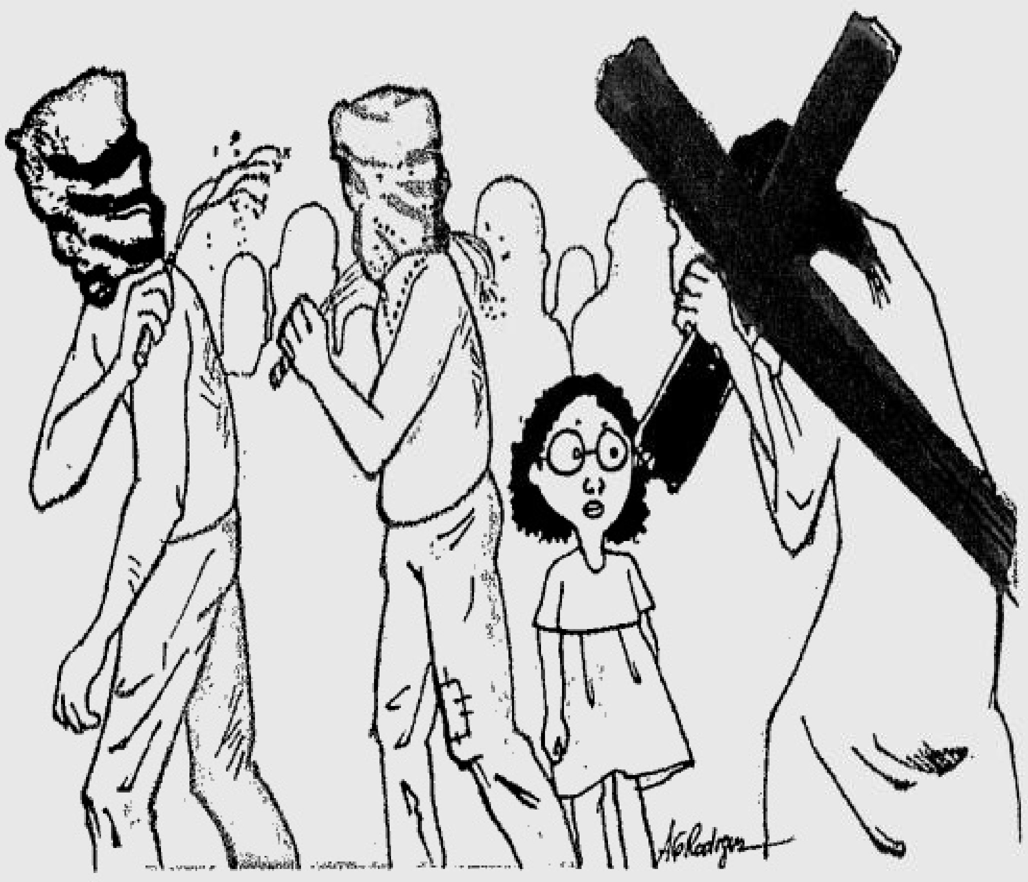
"Kukurutin niya tayo sa singit, tapos, bibigyan niya tayo ng bente-singko," the classmate said.

I balked, and never made it to the movie house. Then did my father quietly move in with a line so simply and honestly put: "Now, let's talk about the resurrection and what it truly means."

ENTERTAINMENT

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Louie C. Camino

Daisy Reyes holds solo concert at Arkdia. /B12



Towards resurrection

By Bibeth Orteza
Contributor

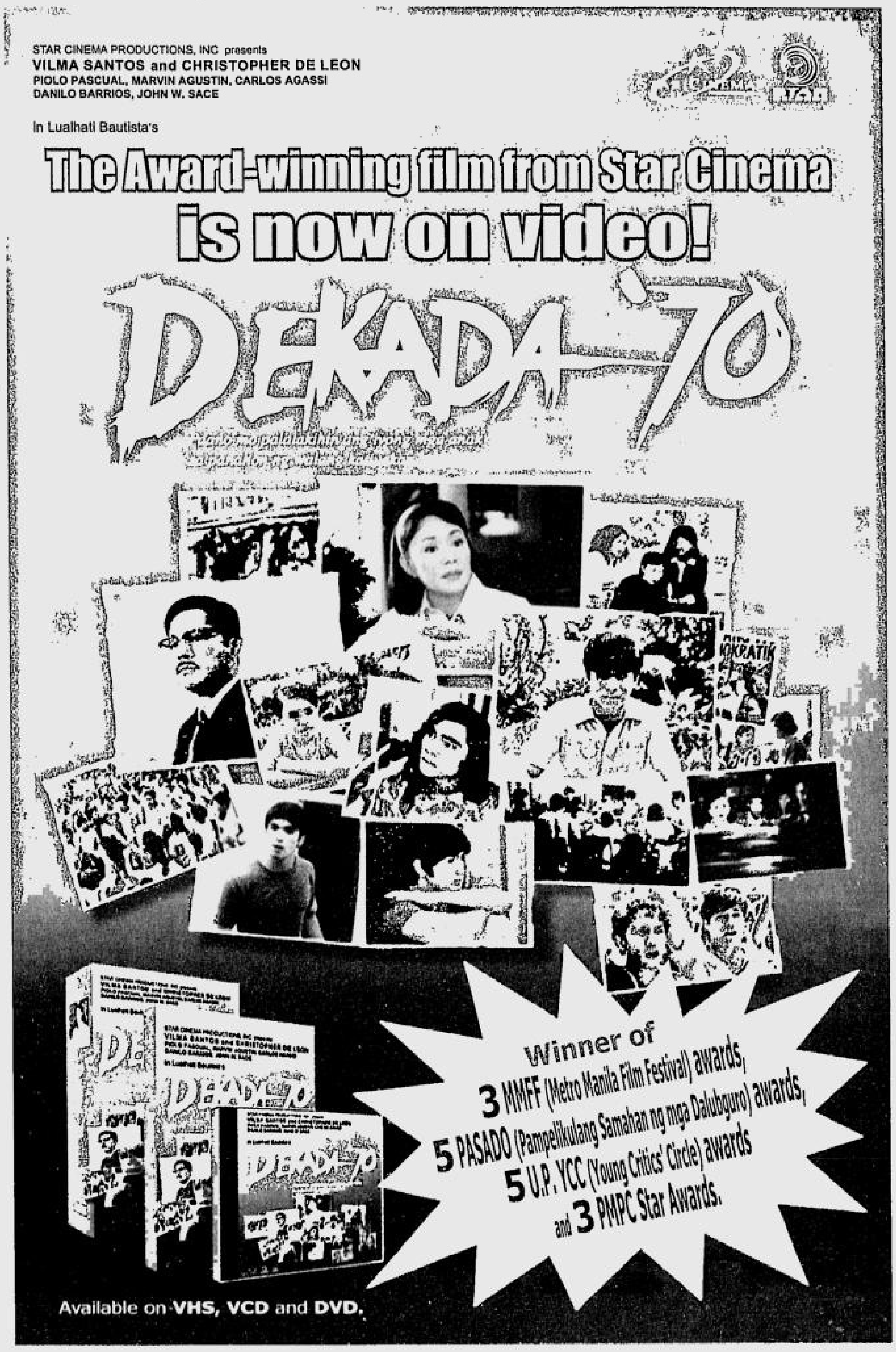
IT COULD have been that we were poor and the neighborhood of my youth was not that much better off, but I really don't remember people hurrying off elsewhere for Holy Week in the '60's. Most stayed put, perhaps because the death of Jesus Christ was much more seriously commemorated then.

We were Protestants, the odd ones out in a flood-infested community at the farthest end of Guadalcanal Street along V. Mapa in old Sta. Mesa. Local legend has now listed as former residents Romeo Vasquez, Ramon Zamora, radio soap opera star Rosie Concepcion, and a really dark, kinky-haired, bespectacled love letter courier of a girl first named Bebeth until she changed the spelling of her nickname in college.

My father, a lay minister, used to lament in the Holy Weeks of my grade school years about how much was focused on the crucifix-

TOWARDS/ A30

> Protestant children do not have saints, but Philippine TV for all the Holy Weeks of my childhood did re-runs of "Song of Bernadette," the 1943 film that garnered 9 Academy Award nominations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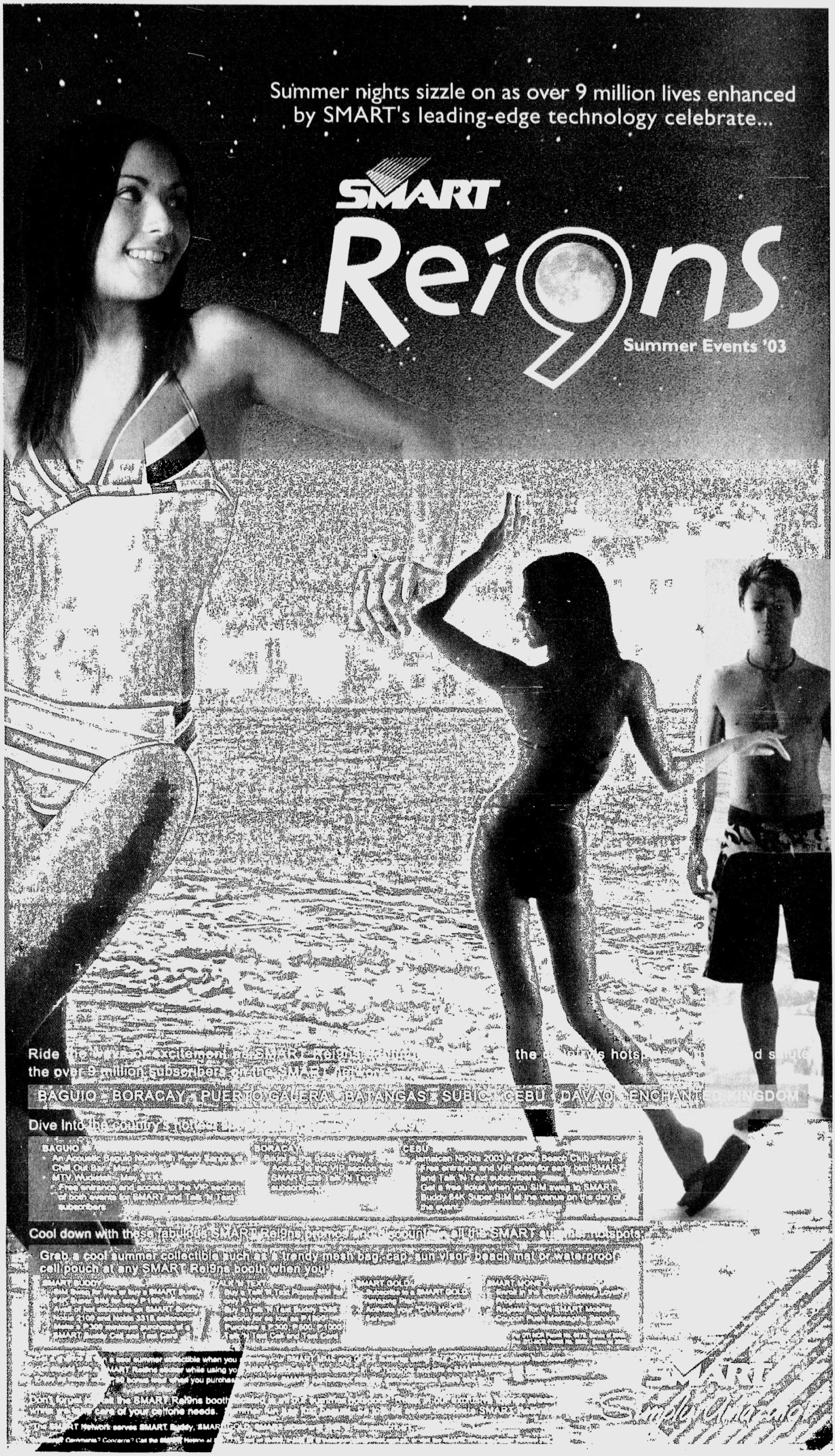

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Exec rises to top armed with lesson learned at 12

PNB chair Franciso A. Dizon today

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

FRANCISCO A. Dizon was 12 years old when he came down the stairs of his family's house in Quezon City one morning and saw their living room filled with brand-new air conditioning units.

Dizon learned that the air-conditioning units, which were the latest in technology in 1962, came from a client of the Philippine National Bank where his father, Bienvenido Y. Dizon, was president.

Their house had only one air conditioning unit at that time and getting the new ones would mean that all the rooms of their house would be air-conditioned.

His father, however, promptly sent back the air conditioning units to the owner saying that one should never put oneself in a compromising situation.

This early lesson in honesty and integrity marked Dizon and served as his guiding value through his long career in banking, the latest chapter of which is his chairmanship of the only bank that his father worked for in his entire life.

Planting his roots

Dizon, however, did not immediately get into a banking career.

After graduating with a General Studies degree from the Ateneo de Manila University in 1971, he helped his family take care of their farms in his father's hometown of Concepcion, Tarlac.

His father paid him P200 a month and he got to use a Volkswagen for his efforts. He went around the farms and made sure that people were working and fertilizer was being applied on time and at the right quantities.

He tells SundayBiz that his one-year stint at the family farm gave him his first lessons in business.

FIRST JOB

Dizon shares that one of the big parcels of his family's property was planted with a certain variety of rice that was, unfortunately, infected by a virus, which meant that the yield would be very small, and only if they were lucky to have any at all.

The family then came to the hard decision to just plow the whole field again and replant with a different variety of rice that was resistant to the deadly virus. It meant additional costs but it was something that they had to do.

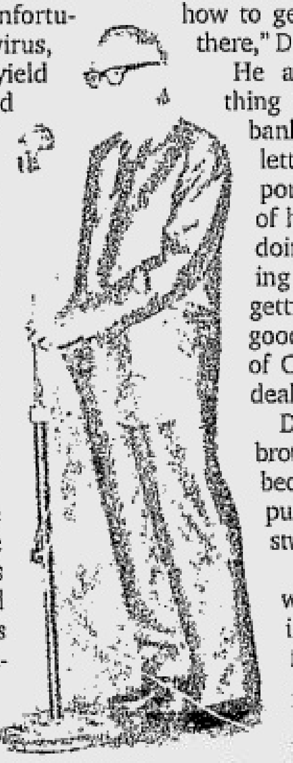
"The lesson for me then was that you have to learn to cut losses. As it turned out, the seed that we planted was more productive. Sometimes, you just have to bite the bullet and then move on," Dizon explains.

After his family sold a major chunk of the family property to the government, Dizon hung his farmer's hat and decided in 1972 to join his elder brother in setting up a company that would distribute farm tractors used for sugar and rice production.

Learning the basics

Dizon was paid P600 a month for being an executive assistant to the general manager and he learned how to set up a business.

"It was a fantastic learning experience. I learned the basics of how to get a business going there," Dizon says.



DIZON'S father and role model, Bienvenido, when he was PNB president in 1962

He adds that the first thing he learned about banking was filling up a letter of credit for imports. This was on top of his other duties like doing the payroll, hiring the first people, getting the imported goods from the Bureau of Customs and finally, dealing with customers.

Dizon stayed with his brother for just a year because he was bent on pursuing graduate studies abroad.

Unfortunately, he was not able to make it because in the frenzy of helping run a new company, he was not able to review for his entrance exam.

Dizon, thus, ended up studying at the Asian Institute of Management in 1973 and he left in 1975 with a Master's degree in Business Management.

His first stint in the corporate world started in 1976 when he went to work for Bancom Development Corp., headed by Sixto K. Roxas, as a deal manager. Bancom at that time was the leading investment bank and it was considered a privilege to work for the company.

Dizon was just a year into his job when he was offered the chance to move to another bank and get three times his salary. He turned it down.

"I rely a lot on my gut instincts and at that time I felt that it was not the right time. And I was still young, just starting my career, so I thought that money should not be my object. My philosophy has also always been that life is a marathon, rather than a sprint," Dizon says.

His instincts proved right. He was promoted that year as senior assistant treasurer. He is proud to say that his promotion was announced at the same time as the promotions of other Bancom people who went on to become big players in the business community, including Manuel V. Pangilinan and Ricardo S. Pascua of the Metro Pacific group, former Finance secretary Ramon R. del Rosario Jr. and Security Bank president Rafael Simpao Jr.

Turning point

The next turning point in Dizon's career came in 1986 when he became part of the Philippine Long Term Equity Fund, associated with the Anscor group, as director and chair of the investment committee.

Investors pooled $20 million and the money was used to invest in Philippine enterprises, among which were the International Container Terminal Services Inc. and Hi-Cement Corp. He was also instrumental in getting the Ayala group to invest in Cebu in 1988.

"That is why whenever I go to the Cebu Business Park, I am proud to say that I had a hand in the city's development," Dizon says.

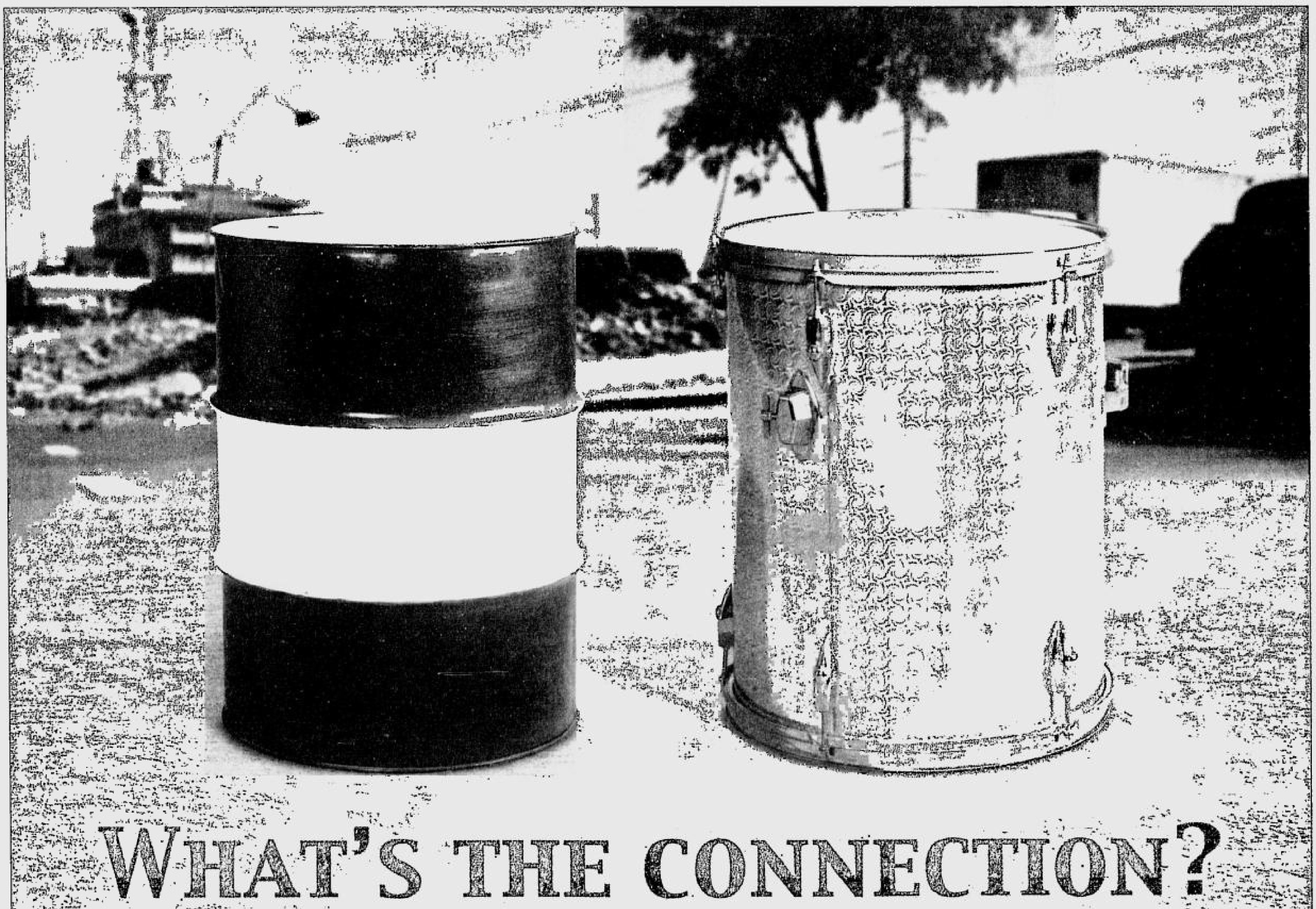
Dizon has a soft spot for Cebu since his mother hails from the province and he is married to a Garcia, a known political and business family of Cebu.

"It was a unique experience for me because the investors got a lot for their money. From $20 million, the fund grew to $74 million in 1994," he says.

He remained with the Anscor group for several years, serving as president of different companies such as AB Capital and Investment Corp. and Asian Bank.

Then in 1998, he moved to the RCBC group of companies, first as director of RCBC Forex Brokers and then as president and CEO of Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. in 1997.

EXEC/B2



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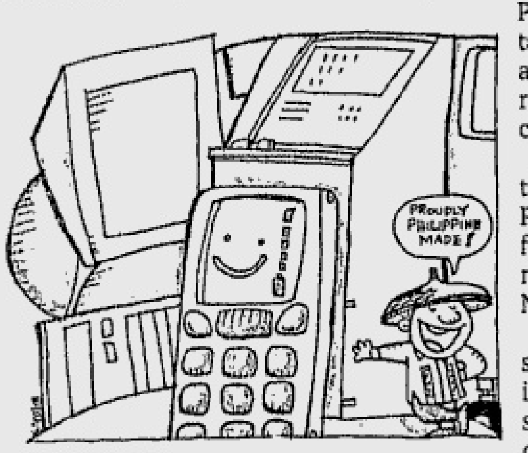
BAYANTEL
BETTER THAN EVER

You don't know it, but your cell phone has RP-made parts

STATE-OF-THE-ART and often amazing technology introduced in today's gadgets, gizmos and contraptions are usually associated with industrialized countries such as Japan, Finland and the United States.

Many are unaware that a number of products—from mobile phones to laptop computers and jumbo jet parts—contain key components manufactured by highly-skilled workers from a traditionally agricultural country like the Philippines.


PROUDLY PHILIPPINE MADE!

The country has already inched its way into the global electronics scene and is currently a major supplier to multinational companies manufacturing high technology gadgets.

In 2001, the Philippines supplied 10 percent of the world demand for semiconductor manufacturing services, accounting for 70 percent of the country's total export revenue of $32 billion.

"The government and the trade and industry department remain committed in supporting the electronics and semiconductor industry, one of the main drivers of Philippine economy and a major generator of jobs," Trade and Industry Secretary Mar Roxas said.

Partly Philippine-made

Data shows that two of three cell phones sold around the world are imbedded with a digital signal processor made by Texas Instruments Philippines Inc.

Employing almost 2,000 highly-skilled Filipinos in its Baguio City facility, Texas Instruments has cornered 50 percent of the worldwide demand for DSPs.

DSPs from Texas Instruments are equipped with microprocessors that ensure real time delivery of crystal clear sounds or your favorite ring tones, longer battery life, and function flexibility.

So a mobile phone that may be made from countries like Finland, China, Japan, Germany, is also likely to contain parts that were made in the Philippines.

Down south, at the Laguna Technopark, Toshiba Information Equipment Philippines Inc. is reinforcing the country's reputation as a key exporter of computers and hard disc drives.

Toshiba manufactures an average of 150,000 computer laptops monthly, and about one million units of hard disc drives for notebook, sub-notebook and mini notebook PCs.

Because of this, the world market sources 50 percent of its 2.5" HDDs and 10 percent of 3.5" HDDs from Philippine-based companies.

Still in Laguna are Amkor Technology Philippines, Matsushita Communication and Industrial Corporation and Epson Precision Phils. Inc.

Matsushita's operations here produce Panasonic cell phones for the Asia-Oceania market and TDMA for North American users.

World-class Filipino skills are also evident in Matsushita's NTSC system monitor, closed circuit video camera and window-type air conditioners.

The Japan head office likewise chose the Philippines as its sole overseas site for the production of intelligent transport system.

Epson, which employs 5,000 workers in its Cabuyao, Laguna facility, is known for its innovative Epson Stylus CX3200 printer model launched last year. The CX3200 is exported to Asia, Europe and North America.

Amkor employs 9,000 Filipinos and offers integrated circuit assembly and test services in more than 400 formats and sizes.

Transaction being processed

Whether you are transacting from an automated teller machine in Binondo or Paris, the phrase 'transaction being processed' comes out of the ATM screen.

Chances are the product of Filipino craftsmanship is actually processing the bank transactions. The unique skills of Filipino engineers are utilized in the making of the hard disk drives inside ATMs.

Fujitsu Computer Products Corp. of the Philippines manufactures hard disc drives which also powers communications and transportations systems requirements. Fujitsu operates at the Carmelray Industrial Park in Canlubang, Laguna.

Land, air transport

The Filipino technicians' expertise is also making a big impact on the road at 30,000 feet above the ground.

At the Baguio City Economic Zone, MOOG Controls Corp. comes up with high performance actuation products crucial to an aircraft's safe journey.

MOOG's high performance actuation gad-

YOU/B4

Electric firm's staff give light to specially abled students

THE PHILIPPINES has a long way to go in becoming a handicapped-friendly society. But that hasn't stopped persons with disabilities to continue striving to achieve their full potential. With help from the government and some private organizations, the handicapped may yet prove themselves an equally productive contributor to nation building.

The Meralco Employees Fund for Charity Inc. (MEFCI), in support of both government and private sector efforts to uplift the conditions of handicapped members of society, is now granting vocational scholarships to persons with disabilities.

Employees of Manila Electric Company formed MEFCI in the 1980's to collect funds for charity projects that complement those sponsored by the company.

It has been conducting regular dental and medical missions in depressed communities within the company's franchise area. It has also been providing medical assistance to indigents and government hospitals and helping in relief efforts during calamities.

Funding for MEFCI comes mainly from monthly voluntary contributions of Meralco employees—from executives to the rank and file—that are automatically deducted from their salaries.

According to MEFCI chair, Ruben Sapitula, although the contribution is voluntary, about 90 percent of Meralco's workforce contributes to MEFCI. They also lend their personal time to MEFCI projects by participating in the medical and dental missions, relief operations and other activities.

MEFCI started granting scholarships for the physically handicapped last year "because we wanted a project that would have a long-term impact on the recipients," Sapitula explained. "Disabled persons are often neglected and are not always given an equal chance to succeed in life. By helping them get an education, we're giving them a lifelong gift. They will be able to earn for themselves, help their families and help society."

The scholarship offered by MEFCI covers tuition, book allowance, food and transportation allowance and other incidental expenses in school.

THREE students currently under the scholarship program of the Meralco Employees Fund for Charity Inc.

"All they have to do is study, so there is no reason for them financially not to finish their education," Sapitula said.

Applications and screening of candidates are done through the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

MEFCI currently has three scholars, all studying cyber programming in one of the leading IT schools in Metro Manila.

Wally dela Cruz had paralyzed arms since birth. Like most disabled persons, Wally had to suffer through the incessant teasing of classmates especially in elementary and high school. He managed to overcome this, determined that he gets an education and proves himself equally capable as his peers.

His college years were cut short however as his family's finances began to run low. He sought assistance from the National Vocational Rehabilitation Center (NVRC), where he learned of MEFCI's scholarship grants.

"I just always keep in mind that even with my disabilities, I can achieve what others can achieve as long as I study well and not give up. As I look at my classmates and other people around me, I really don't see anything they do that I can't," he said.

Ricky Santos exudes the same confidence and determination despite having been born with polio. His parents both unemployed, Ricky had every reason to give up and accept an uneducated life. But he chose to find whatever means there were to send himself to school.

"I really wanted to study because that's the only way I can be at par with my peers. I can't compete with them physically but if I'm educated, I can even beat them in terms of knowledge and skills," Ricky said.

Both Wally and Ricky have two more semesters to complete before graduating and finding employment. They are fully aware that they would be facing an entirely different ballgame then.

"It won't be easy finding a job because most companies already judge an applicant simply by their physical attributes. We are not even given a chance to prove ourselves first," Ricky lamented.

He had landed part time employment in the past but that was only for a few months' project and he was hired upon the recommendation of NVRC.

Wally currently has a part time job in an animation and design company but he too feels it would be twice as difficult to find a regular full time job after graduation.

"If people without disabilities can't

ELECTRIC/B10

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Website: http://www.aim.edu.ph

Exec rises to top armed with lesson learned at 12

From page B1

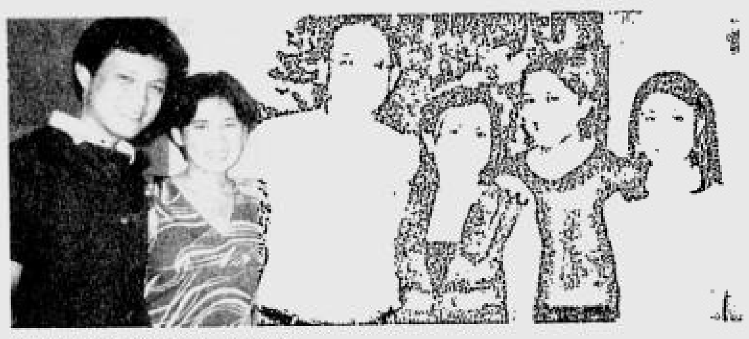
He, however, did not outgrow his taste for venture capital funds. Since 1996, he and other investors manage a P200-million fund under Project Quest Corp. that invests in companies where human resource is the main competitive advantage and serve the general public.

Project Quest's investments include Netopia, a chain of Internet cafés and a chain of medical clinics. Former Health Secretary Jaime Galvez-Tan handles the day-to-day operations of the medical clinics.

DIZON celebrating New Year's Day in 1976

On to PNB

Despite his responsibilities with Project Quest, Dizon ably steered RCBC from 1997 to 2000 as president and CEO and in 2001 as member of the advisory board.



THE DIZON family today

It was then that he was asked to join the board of PNB as a government representative. He was hesitant at first to accept it saying that he has always been in the private sector and "too independent-minded" to be in government, but he took the job for old time's sake.

"If it was any other bank I would not have moved but then I thought that it was a chance for me to build on my father's legacy so I said why not?" Dizon says.

It was not the best of times to be in PNB as it had just gone through a bank run and the government had to bail out the bank by infusing over P20 billion in fresh funds. Dizon, however, is not one to run away from challenges. He even took on the added responsibility of being chairman of the bank in October of 2002.

"I thought that I was just 52 years old. Maybe it was something I could take on," he says.

Aside from the usual challenges of improving the wanting financial picture of the bank, Dizon and the rest of the board and management introduced good governance policies in the bank.

Among the major policies was to set up a board committee whose primary role was to draw up policies on lending. It was a priority measure as PNB was saddled with close to P50 billion in bad assets.

The board also drew up policies geared at eliminating conflicts of interest within the company, especially at the level of management and the board members.

"We are doing these so that even after we leave the bank, the policies are in place. The primary objective is to make the bank do well, and for the government to eventually get its money out of the bank," Dizon says.

And in the process, pick up where his father left off over 40 years before.

DIZON (third from right) Circa 1980s

How banks are handling the SARS crisis in region

WITH economists warning that it could have a worse impact on some economies, notably Hong Kong's, than the financial crisis of 1997-98, the pneumonia-like Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) scare has had banks scrambling across the region.

SARS is affecting banks in several ways. Firstly, volumes in discretionary business are down. Senior bankers in wealth management in Singapore have told us that business flow has been dramatically reduced by the combined effects of the war in Iraq and SARS, although SARS concern may create a short-term spike in the sale of health insurance and life insurance policies.

Secondly, more customers are turning to alternative channels to transact banking business. Although none of the banks have released any figures yet, we expect a significant increase in the proportion of customer transactions conducted through remote channels such as the Internet.

Thirdly, the banks needed to react swiftly to the perceived health threat to their customers and staff.

Below are some examples of what banks in Hong Kong

HOW/B5

PRULINK **PRU LIFE U.K.**

VARIABLE LIFE	Current Week April 15, 2003	Last Week April 08,2003
Prulink Bond Fund	1.04667	1.04637
Prulink Managed Fund	1.03304	1.03194

* Note: PRULINK Funds were launched last September 18,2002

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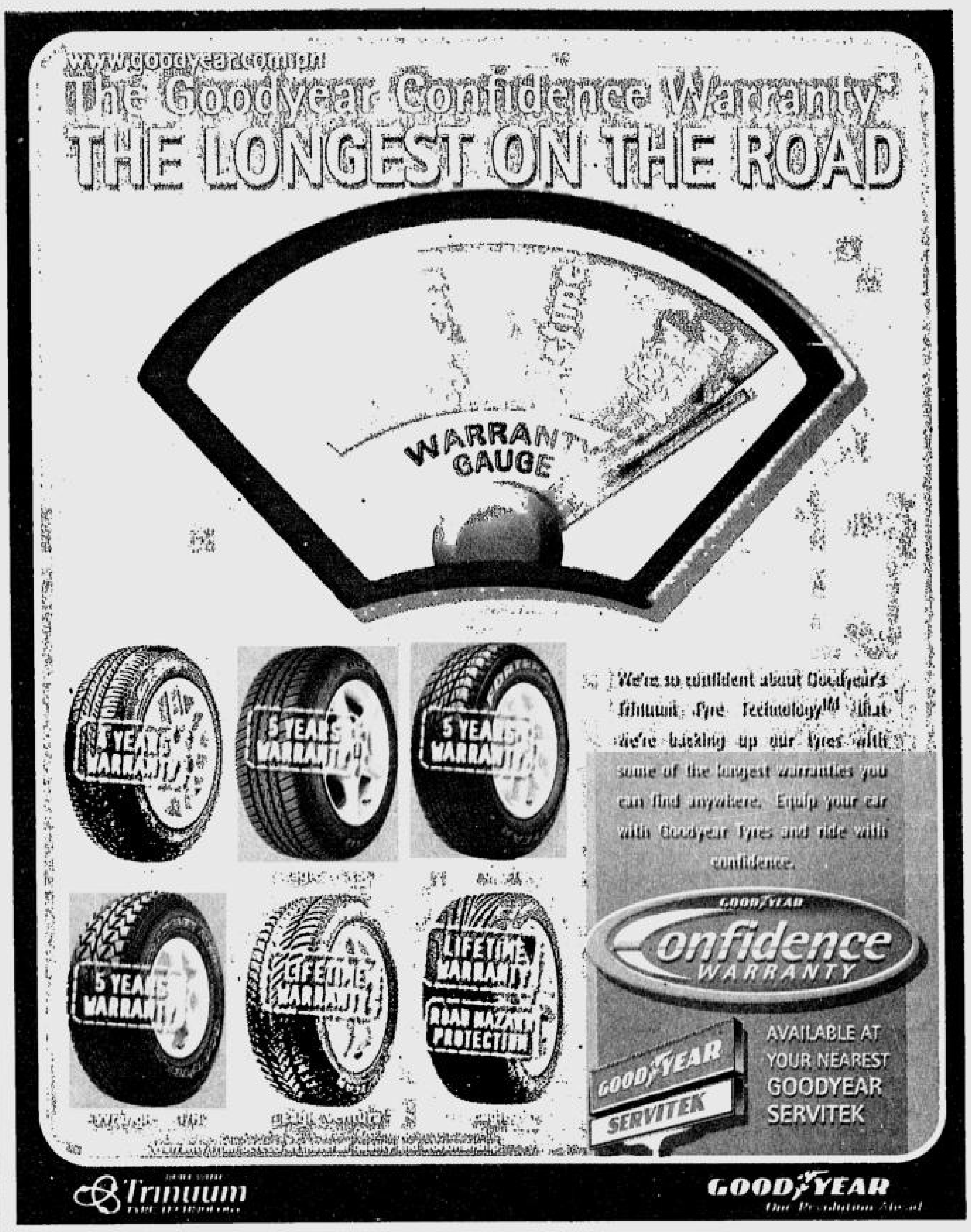

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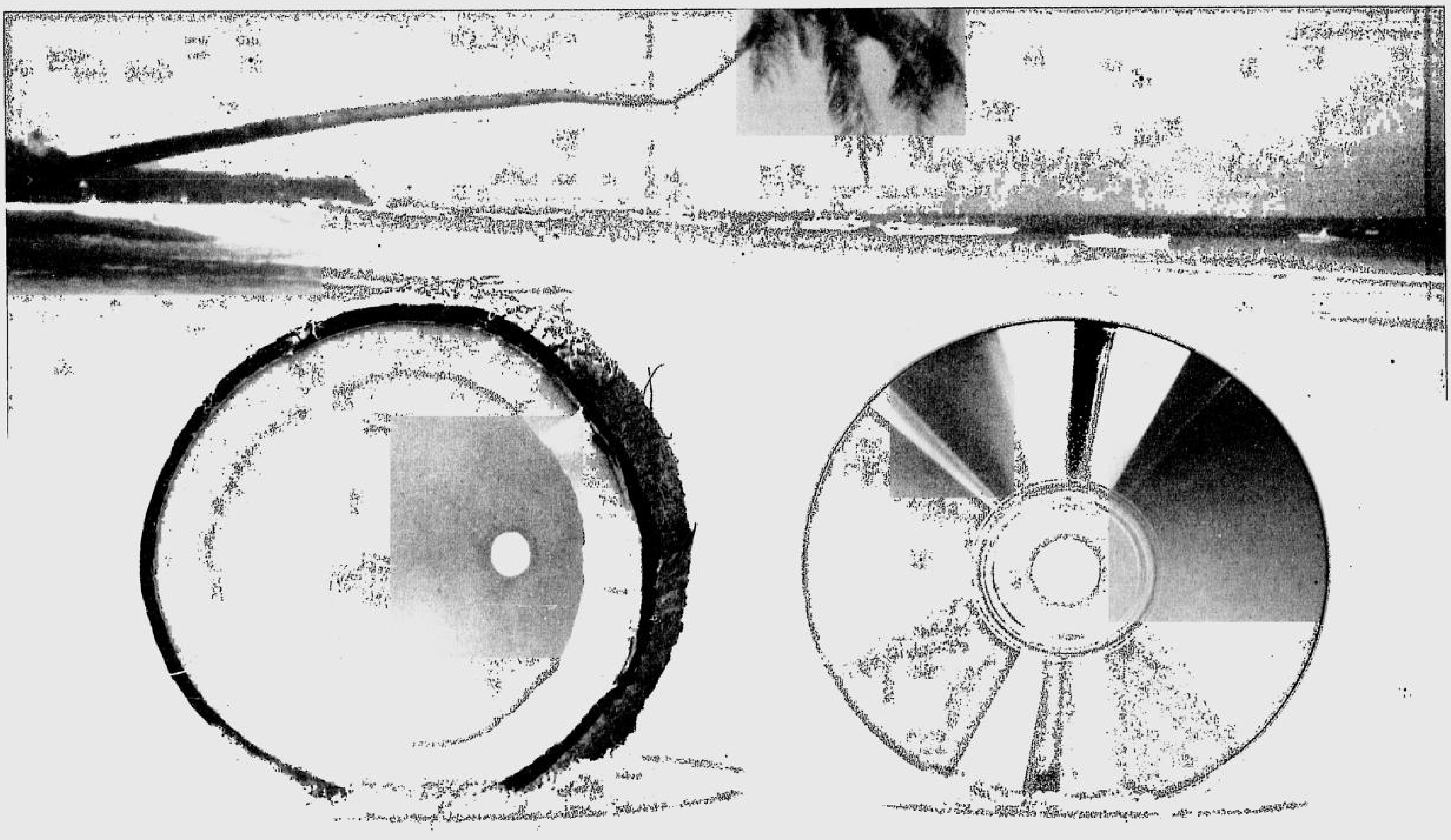

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BAYANTEL
BETTER THAN EVER

Direct selling course set

THE DIRECT Selling Association of the Philippines (DSAP), an organization composed of 26 direct selling companies, in cooperation with the De La Salle University (DLSU), is conducting a certificate course in direct selling and network marketing, to be held on May 8 and 9 at the Waldo Perfecto Room, DLSU campus, Manila.

Early registration is now going on, with discounted rates at P3,200 (for DSAP members) and P3,500 (for non-members) until April 25. For details, call Ella or Nilo of DSAP (8642672-73, Fax No. 8921179), Johann (8920555, Fax No. 7512091), Gem (9100860, Fax No. 9101801), Chiqui (8934922, Fax No. 8934925) or Marie (8106781, Fax No. 8106748). Or visit www.dsap.ph.

DSAP has designed a certificate course intended for current and prospective sales associates/independent distributors of direct selling companies, members of a company's management using direct sales as a distribution channel and philosophy, and marketing professors who wish to teach direct selling and network marketing in their universities/colleges. DLSU has agreed to be DSAP's partner in this endeavor.

The certificate course has four modules: Entrepreneurship: Building Financial and Personal Freedom for the Filipino Families; Starting Your Distributor Business: A Self-Assessment; Growing Your Distributor Business: Continuous Business and Relationship Building Efforts; and Sustaining Your Distributorship Business Volume: Lessons from Direct Selling Warriors.

Distinguished speakers from the academe and the direct selling industry include Dr. Michael Alba, dean of DLSU's College of Business and Economics, Dr. Leonardo Garcia, director of DLSU's CBE Graduate Studies, Rene Hapitan, MS coordinator for Master of Science in Financial Engineering at DLSU, Josiah Go, author of "The Direct Selling and Entrepreneurial Mindset," Louie Migne, secretary general of DSAP, Roy Yu, director of sales of Avon Cosmetics Inc. Manuel Recto, chief finance officer of Sara Lee Direct Selling Phils., Emil Quinto, Nikken Phils. managing director, Carlos Maglutac, in-charge of sales and marketing at Pilmap Travel and Leisure Magazine and lecturer at DLSU's marketing department, Josie Medina, international field vice president of Symmetry Phils., Rikard Rosen, managing director of Lux Marketing Corp. Phils., Eric Lee, independent business owner, Amway Phils., Marivic Go, distributor, Tupperware Phils., Christina Boyd, independent executive sales director of Mary Kay Phils. Inc., and Criselda Medalla, diamond executive, Nu Skin Phils.

You don't know it...

From page B2

gets enable pilots to effectively and safely steer the aircraft via its flaps, rudders and other key parts.

On the road, Philips Semiconductors Philippines and its highly skilled workforce likewise makes traveling safer through its active rotational speed sensors used by at least 4 million vehicles.

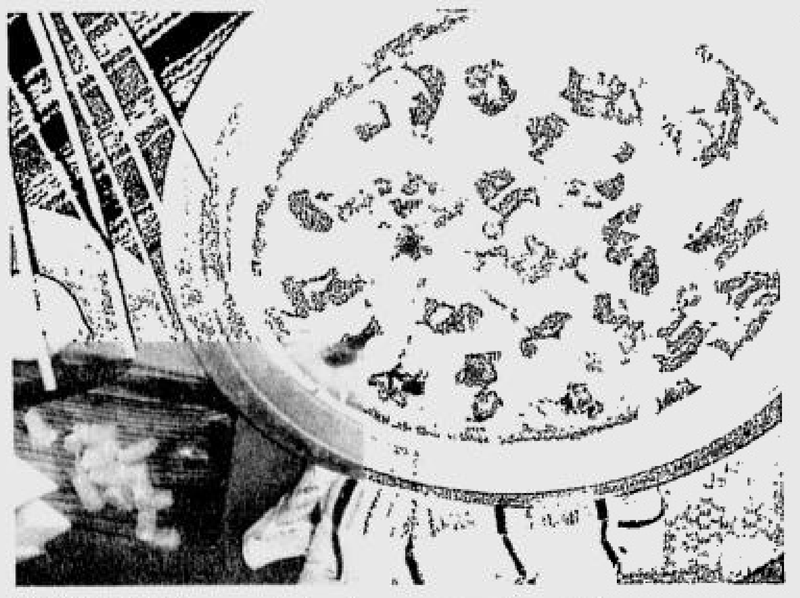
ARSS made by Philips in its Cabuyao, Laguna manufacturing facility is a key component of a vehicle's anti-lock brake system. It is also used for motor management, current management and position detection.

Leading Japanese, American and European automobile makers have made Philippine-made ARSS their choice.

"The presence of Filipino expertise in many aspects of business and technology internationally sends the message that the Philippines is a force to reckon with in the electronics and semiconductors industry," Roxas said.

Young trainer gives up law school for a kitchen venture

Text and photos by Cristina Arzadon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau



HOMEMADE pizza made by a homegrown pizza outlet that dates back to the '80s.

ANTHONY A. AGOR

LAOAG CITY—Shedding off her corporate getup to a kitchen apron, young entrepreneur Candy Caluya plunged into the business world unmindful of the broadsides that came along with her decision to turn her back on the corporate world.

Caluya, 31, was a law student and trainer for a private corporation in Metro Manila until she woke up one day and realized that her schedule had become too cruel. She wanted out.

"It was a world that I wanted to explore because it guaranteed independence and freedom from the routines of corporate life," she says.

Armed with P50,000 which she borrowed from her brother and a P10,000 saving, Caluya returned to Ilocos Norte and opened her own pizza-pasta outlet in 2001.

That her mother Estelita also runs probably the city's first pizza outlet was of much help because the community had been accustomed to her family's tradition of producing homemade pizza.

"Before we could even pronounce lasagna correctly, my mother had her own pizza outlet since the 1980s," Caluya says.

The C&E pizza (taken from the initials of her parents' names Constante and Estelita) used to be a neighborhood food counter in a ground floor room of the Caluya house here.

The Caluyas eventually transformed the entire floor into a homey restaurant with about six tables, to accommodate dine-in customers.

Unlike her mother who is a culinary enthusiast, Caluya only has had her office experience as a program trainer to back her up in her food venture.

"My mother resented the idea of me going back to the province. She wanted me to focus on my law studies in Manila," she says.

"I wanted to earn my own keep and I could only do that by having my own business. I did a lot of convincing before she finally agreed. Now, my outlet sells better than hers," a grinning Caluya says.

Managing her own business, she says, is a humbling experience.

"I had to do everything from cleaning the shop, supervising the kitchen, putting together the menu and doing the accounting at the end of the day," she says.

Taking the leap from the corporate world to become self-employed also drew criticisms from Caluya's friends.

"Many of us were conditioned to believe that success could only come when you work for a big company. Society is not as generous in appreciating self-employed individuals," she says.

She recalled people showing disbelief when they saw her delivering pizza to offices.

"I may always be seen with my apron on, supervising the goings-on in my kitchen, but I've never felt prouder and more accomplished," she says.

Caluya's own restaurant maintained the charm and intimate touch that the family business had been known for. Only, its floor area is half the size of her mother's.

Asked whether the entry of Greenwich, the widely popular pizza-pasta chain, in the city posed a threat, Caluya says: "It gave me sleepless nights while the fast-food store was still in the works."

"I thought its entry meant the end of my business. I saw my store as a David facing a Goliath," she says.

"I told myself I may have to start learning how to cross-stitch. I plan to go into another business, like a coffee shop, so I (can have an alternative)."

When news spread that the pizza chain was already building its store, she recalled having sent "spies" to find out whether the signage had been put up.

She went as far as ordering pizza from Metro Manila and took a closer look at its details—from its price, the size of the crust and even the amount of toppings.

When the pizza branch finally opened, Caluya says: "Surprise, surprise we grossed even higher than our average sales."

Her regular customers told her they just wanted to catch the opening day fever just as anyone would do when there's something new in the city.

But she admitted having added more toppings and lowering her prices to compete with the giant chain.

"We are confident that locals would always patronize our product regardless of how many competition comes around. What made the difference is locals know our product as something that is their own. They know our quality like they know their neighbors," she says.

Her store will mark its second anniversary next month but Caluya says she still gets the feeling of being regarded by friends and relatives as a failure.

"I learned a lot in the business. There's a perception that when you are a homegrown business, you are incapable of coming up with quality service and products. But we are trying to dispel that," she says.

"We take it as a challenge to strive further because our product carries the banner of the locality. We hope to be at par with the giant fast-food chains. After all, we belong to the community. And we are the community," Caluya says.

Young execs grace the ramp armed with new phone

SONY Ericsson chose an invitational fashion of young executives called "The Power Generation Forecast," to launch its new model.

The event was part of the Fashion Week 2003 and feature young members of the corporate world to grace the catwalk with the new P800 in their hands.

They paraded the latest collections from Hugo Boss and Liz Clairborne. For these active people, modeling was a welcome break from their hectic workday.

The elite Sony Ericsson P800 multimedia smartphone was aimed to be the the real star of the show. The mobile version of a jack-of-all-trades, the P800 took center stage with its slick, modern design and even cooler features.

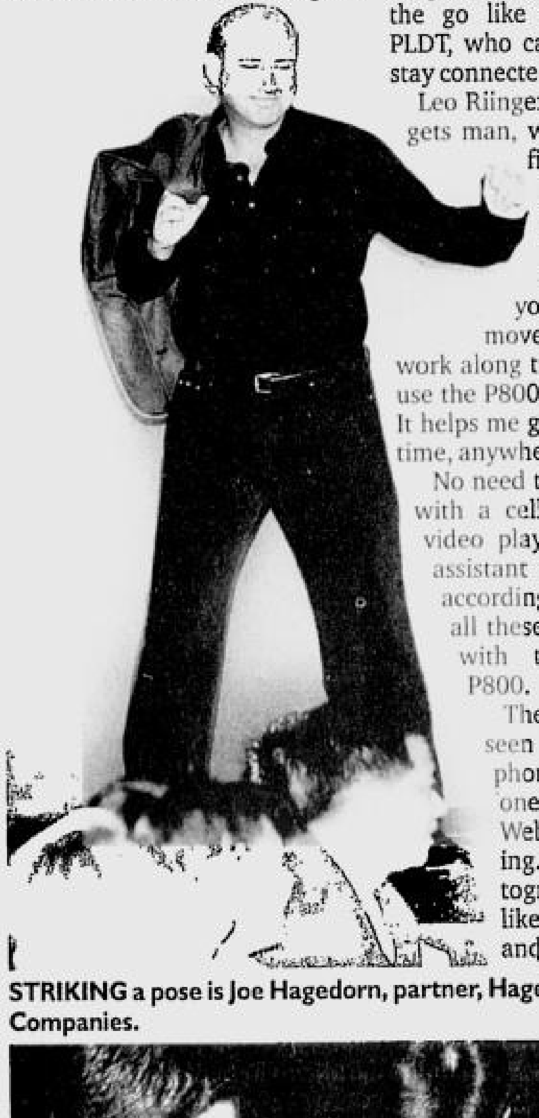
The P800 is mini non-stop entertainment and business center. Its perfect for power people on the go like Butch Jimenez of PLDT, who can use the P800 to stay connected.

Leo Riingen, a confirmed gadgets man, who was one of the first users of the Sony Ericsson P800 has this to say: "Your cell phone is a good indicator of your workstyle. I move around a lot and work along the way, that's why I use the P800. It's my mini office. It helps me get my job done anytime, anywhere."

No need to stuff your bag full with a cellular phone, audio-video player, personal digital assistant (PDA) and camera according to Sari Yap, when all these are rolled into one with the Sony Ericsson P800.

The models were also seen checking out the phone's ability to offer one-button access to the Web and fast downloading. Mark Leviste, a photography enthusiast, liked its easy to point and shoot digital camera. They were further wowed by the phone's capability to add sound clips and personal text messages to create unique mobile postcards. Who would have thought a message could be made so interactive?

Sharing in the success of the night was the Sony Ericsson group headed by general manager Dennis Manzano and marketing manager Patrick E.S. Larraga, who were thrilled with the show's outcome in showcasing the versatility, functionality and style of the Sony Ericsson P800.



STRIKING a pose is Joe Hagedorn, partner, Hagedorn Group of Companies.

FROM left: Sony Ericsson's products and services manager Rodney Gaviola, Butch Jimenez and Willy Cuason

MAKING his modeling debut is Leo Riingen, president/CEO, Informatics Phils.

CHECKING out the features of the Sony Ericsson P800 is Warren Sy, president of ADM.

ANTONIO Pioda Roda, president, Nortel Network

CHATTING up after the show was Sharon Tan and Joey Espino

Luis Pellicer II, president, Lupel Marketing

ENJOYING the night were: (from left) Eurotile's Jeffrey Ng and Sony Ericsson's marketing manager Patrick E.S. Larraga

How banks are handling the SARS crisis in region

From page B3

have been doing to battle the killer virus:

In early April, after one staff member contracted SARS, Dao Heng Bank temporarily closed its customer center in the Wanchai district of Hong Kong for disinfection and cleaning.

HSBC has stopped all non-essential travel to and from Hong Kong. Fifty bankers from HSBC's trading floor were sent home for a week as a precaution, and to separate them from other staff. They were then transferred to a second, "contingency" trading floor.

Credit Suisse First Boston is one of several banks that have split people between different buildings.

Standard Chartered Bank has been restricting employee travel not just to Hong Kong and China, but also to Singapore and Vietnam. Personnel from the region have been prohibited from travelling to the UK'on business.

Standard Chartered, Dao Heng Bank and Bank of Communications closed their Amoy Gardens branches in Ngau Tau Kok. Amoy Gardens is a housing estate where the government imposed a 10-day quarantine period after about 200 cases of SARS were discovered. *The Asian Banker*

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BETTER THAN EVER

The Search for

The Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations

Recognizing Youth Efforts in Nation-Building

TAYO Briefer

Rationale

The YOUTH of today possess great potential to institute and begin various programs that will benefit their communities. As individuals, with strong minds, idealism and vigor they can make great things happen in their communities. But with their collective efforts as organizations they will have the capacity to wholly take on the challenge of nation building.

The efforts of youth organizations committed in effectively helping their society must not go unnoticed. These organizations must be constantly encouraged to continue their valuable endeavors and undertakings.

With these in mind, we therefore acknowledge the need for a program that will give recognition and incentives to these youth organizations through a national selection, whose end-goal is to identify the projects begun by these dynamic young people, and its impact on the communities they have served.

Objective

The Search for the Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations aims to recognize, reward and encourage contributions made by groups of young Filipinos for the progress of our society by identifying outstanding youth organizations, clubs and societies with well-crafted and highly applicable and effective programs.

Categories

- Business, Livelihood and Entrepreneurship
- Capability-Building and Education
- Communications and Media
- Community Development
- Culture and the Arts
- Environmental Protection and Conservation
- Information Technology
- Public Health

Qualifications

The Search is open to all groups, organizations, clubs and societies ("Organizations") whose membership and leadership is composed of at least fifteen (15) Filipinos classified as members of the youth sector, that is aged 15 to 30 years old.

The Organization shall be judged on the basis of a recent project or program ("Project Entry") that had an impact on the community and which best reflects the efforts of the youth sector towards nation building. The Project Entry must have been undertaken in at least three months. Projects or programs, which started in January of 2002, may qualify. All Project Entries must have been completed by the deadline of submission of requirements. For continuing projects, a major portion shall have been undertaken by the time of the deadline.

General Criteria

- ***Impact***
- ***Social Mobilization***
- ***Innovativeness***
- ***Sustainability*** and ***Probability of Duplication***

National Judges

- Chairman Paolo Benigno A. Aquino IV, NYC
- Senator Francis N. Pangilinan
- Mr. Reginald T. Yu, Philippine Jaycees
- Undersecretary Jose Luis "Chito" Gascon, Department of Education
- Mr. Roberto Calingo, Mirant Philippines
- Ms. Emily Abrera, McCann-Erickson
- Ms. Bernadette Sembrano, The Probe Team
- Ms. Rina Jimenez-David, Philippine Daily Inquirer
- Ms. Celine R. Madamba, Philippine Daily Inquirer
- Commissioner Araceli S. Aves, NYC
- Mr. Jarius Bondoc, The Philippine Star
- Ms. Marian Catedral, Caltex Philippines
- Ms. Estela dela Paz, First Gas Power Corporation

Organizers:

Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

- Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders
- Center for Local Governance, Research and Development

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Sponsors:

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- Philippine Daily Inquirer
- Caltex Philippines
- First Gas Power Corporation
- Philippine Geothermal, Incorporated
- Cebu Pacific Philippines

The TAYO Winners and Runners-Up with President Arroyo, Sen. Pangilinan, NYC Chairman Aquino and NYC Comm. Aves.

The First Winners of the Search for the Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations:

Ateneo Debate Society (Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City)
Project Entry: Philippine Debate Development Program, a concentrated program designed to develop Philippine debating, critical thinking, issue awareness, and intelligent and analytical argumentation among the youth.

BPI-Save Mother Earth Club (Cagayan de Oro City)
Project Entry: Solid Waste Management Program (segregation, recycling, and composting) in pilot elementary and high schools which covered a total student population of 32,613 in the city

Hundred Islands Cycling Club (Alaminos, Pangasinan)
Project Entry: GreenTrek 2002, a youth mobilization program geared towards raising environmental awareness and encouraging concrete action in the protected areas in the municipalities of Western Pangasinan through cave management courses, coastal, mountain and cave trail clean-ups, mangrove tree planting, distance hiking and spelunking.

Kabataang Gabay sa Positibong Pamumuhay-Pag-Asa Youth Association of the Philippines (Iloilo City)
Project Entry: HIV/AIDS Youth Advocacy Package or HAYAP, whereby the HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention message is communicated to children and youth. KGPP uses the peer-oriented, child-to-child approach in youth health and development.

Kapansanan ay Akibat sa Kaunlaran ng Bayan KAAKBAY (Davao City)
Project Entry: Physical Therapists to the Barangay, wherein the members of the club, all physical therapists, and PT students conduct free treatment sessions in the depressed community where their center is based. They have already conducted 2,500 free sessions in two years. Colleges in the city have affiliated themselves with the club for their PT students to serve through KAAKBAY.

MyZoo Volunteer Group Foundation (Makati City)
Project Entry: Zoo To You, a mobile zoo program where animals and educational materials are brought to schools and institutions. The club spreads love for the environment through lectures on conservation and by interaction with animals, such as turtles, snakes, birds, iguanas and small mammals. On its lectures it brings along with the animals a photo exhibit and portraits of Philippine wildlife. The club, while centralized in Manila Zoo and the Wildlife Rescue Center, has brought its message of love for animals to Cavite, Batangas, Laguna and Rizal.

Rodeo Club of the Philippines Benguet State University Chapter (La Trinidad, Baguio)
Project Entry: Rodeo Community Extension Clinic, a community development initiative that includes the following activities: anti-rabies awareness and vaccination program in several barangays and for dogs whose owners cannot afford to pay the fees; swine dispersal program; and one-day rodeo clinic, for deworming, branding, dehorning and other treatments, and training in proper animal handling and restraint.

Rotaract of Muntinlupa Peacemaker Youth Club (Muntinlupa City)
Project Entry: Eco-Waste Management Project, which targeted some 280 households in Muntinlupa City. The club started waste disposal education campaign, through public orientation on tagging of garbage bags (into biodegradable and non-biodegradable) and monitoring if the residents actually followed this system, creating a community that put a premium on sanitation and environment-friendliness.

Students' Action Vital to the Environment and Mother Earth Movement SAVE ME (San Mateo, Rizal)
Project Entry: Lakbay Aral Sanay at Gabay Immersion Program, for ten days, bringing together in this activity all of its other initiatives such as trainings, workshops, book donations, community clean-ups, and tree planting. The club sent its members to selected sites outside cities to rediscover the commonalities between rural and urban youth.

University of the Pilippines Industrial Engineering Club (Diliman, Quezon City)
Project Entry: College Jump-Starter Seminar, which provides public high school seniors in Quezon City with free reviews for college entrance exams. Aside from the actual review, the club offered advice on degree options and information about scholarship opportunities. Held in the Saturdays of July 2002, the review was devoted to Math, Science and English. The project culminated in a mock entrance exam. Twenty-seven out of the 95 participants in the review passed the UP College Admission Test.

The 10 Runners-Up to this year's Search:

- **Dipolog Youth for Progress Right Moves (Dipolog City)**
- **Emmanuel Baja Chapter, Order of DeMolay (Cavite City)**
- **Guided and Unified Interaction for the Development of Children GUIDE (Mandaluyong City)**
- **Hiliugyon Sang Pamatan-on PYAP (Victorias City, Negros Occidental)**
- **Loyola Mountaineers (Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City)**
- **Naga College Foundation Cultural Arts Center (Naga City, Camarines Sur)**
- **University of Sta. Isabel Nursing Students' Association (Naga City)**
- **Vintar 4-H Club (Valencia City, Bukidnon)**
- **Visayan Village Green Brigade (Tagum City, Davao del Norte)**
- **Youth Policy Forum (Cagayan Valley)**

Special Thanks to:

- McCann Erickson Philippines
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- Krokodile Grille, Makati City
- Brainchild Production Staff
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- the members of the Screening Committee and the Validation Teams

. . . and to all youth organizations in schools and communities that made the 1st TAYO Awards a success.

Messages

Her Excellency
Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
President, Republic of the Philippines

"Our youth of today possess great potentials to initiate growth-oriented community programs. They have the talent, vigor and idealism to make things happen. When organized, they can wholly take on the challenges of nation-building, as exemplified by the ***Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations.*** *I congratulate th› first awardees for proving once more the relevance of youth power in nation-building. Let us continue exploring the frontiers of reform and cooperation so that we can help revitalize our society, improve our economy, bring peace to our communities and create the strong republic we and rising generations deserve."*

Atty. Francis "Kiko" N. Pangilinan
Senator, Republic of the Philippines

"TAYO is about unity and action; it is about helping one another address community concerns. It is also about inspiring other young people to always do their share in addressing our country's problems in the communities. Kinikilala natin sa TAYO na may mga problema, nguni't kaya nating harapin ang mga ito sa pamamagitan ng sama-samang paglilingkod."

Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
National Youth Commission

"TAYO was created to put young and dedicated Filipinos in the national spotlight in the hope that other youth will be inspired to form clubs and organizations dedicated to serving their communities. Through TAYO, we wish to have brought to the nation's attention a new crop of young heroes. We do not have to look to the past for role models, because now the youth can find them amidst their own. And hopefully, through their examples, the country's youth can become heroes themselves."

Atty. Mabel P. Villarica-Mamba
2002 National President
Philippine Jaycees

"In the spirit of the Philippine Jaycees' active service to the community, TAYO is the perfect program to encourage and promote community building by recognizing the contributions of today's young men and women. We believe that TAYO is planting a seed in today's youth that will soon bear great leaders for our country's future."

Herbert Constantine M. Bautista
Vice Mayor, Quezon City
President, National Movement of Young Legislators

"May TAYO serve as our inspiration and motivation to promote civic efficiency and responsible citizenship. This Award serves as a challenge for the youth to excel and rally the apathetic to take a proactive and productive role in our society."

Paul Flake
Vice President
MirantPhilippines

"We at Mirant see the TAYO Awards to be an effective way to motivate our youth to become better and strong catalysts of change and challenge them to deal with problems of the broadest interest in the highest level of responsibility."

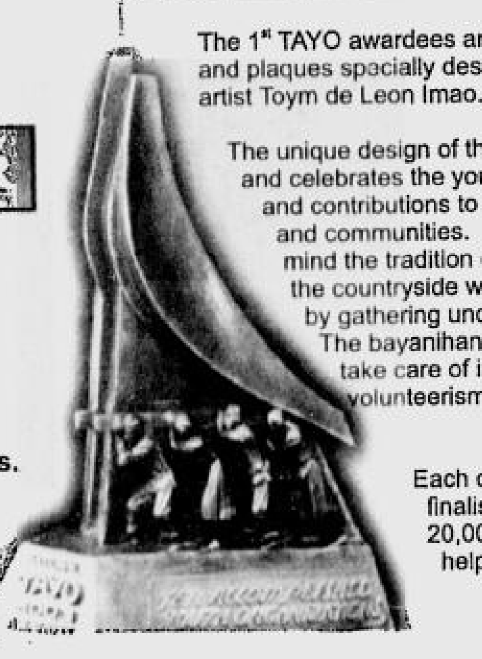
Programme

Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations
Awarding Ceremonies
11 April 2003
Ceremonial Hall, Malacanang, Manila

Audio Visual Presentation on the TAYO	
Arrival of the President	
National Anthem	*UST College of Science Glee Club*
Doxology	*Ms. Karlyne Kimberly Kwok*
Welcome Address & Overview of the TAYO	*Chairman Paolo Benigno A. Aquino IV*
Message	*Sen. Francis N. Pangilinan*
Intermission Number	*Rivermaya, "Awit Ng Kabataan"*
Presentation of Finalists	*Commissioner Araceli S. Aves*
Awarding of the TAYO	*President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo* *Sen. Francis N. Pangilinan* *Chairman Paolo Benigno A. Aquino IV* *Mr. Ed Bautista, CEO, Mirant Philippines*
Response from a representative of the TAYO	*Mr. Lester Louis Lopez, My Zoo Volunteer Foundation*
Cocktails	

Miss Jolina Magdangal and Mr. Dingdong Dantes
Emcees

TAYO Prizes



The 1st TAYO awardees and finalists received 18-inch trophies and plaques specially designed by multi-awarded sculptor and artist Toym de Leon Imao.

The unique design of the trophies and plaques recognizes and celebrates the youth groups' outstanding achievements and contributions to nation-building through their schools and communities. The design of the trophies also calls to mind the tradition of the bayanihan, where neighbors in the countryside would help a family literally move house by gathering under it and lifting it to its new location. The bayanihan proves that a community is able to take care of its own, and embodies the spirit of volunteerism and cooperation.

Each of the winning organizations and finalists also received Php 50,000 and Php 20,000 grants to sustain present projects or help them launch new ones.

Watch out for the TAYO TV Special to be aired over the ABS-CBN News Channel!

TAYO ang simula ng kinabukasan. Mabuhay ang Kabataang Pilipino!

Using a not so private body to sell a bath and body line

By Corrie Salientes-Narisma

A YEAR or so ago, three young enterprising people—Abba S. Napa, Boni Manlapig and Geronimo Begre—met for the first time with local cinema's "pantasya ng bayan," Joyce Jimenez, to discuss a business proposition.

That meeting apparently led to several other brainstorming sessions, but it did not take long for the four to come to an agreement to go for it.

Thus, a few months after that first meeting, a joint venture was formed between Joyce's Private Joyce Inc. and The General Bath and Body Co., owned by the three young entrepreneurs, and SKIN_Private Joyce, a personal care and cosmetics company, was born.

The joint venture was clear on its goal: To provide quality but very affordable bath and body products that people from all walks of life can afford.

It offers several major product lines bearing the SKIN_Private Joyce brand: Perfume for men and women, foot spa, aroma therapy (massage oils), body sprays and hand cleanser, body scrub and bath gel. It is also introducing shortly its summer line consisting of sunscreen, moisturizer, body mists and soap bars.

Quick expansion

Only about six-month-old now, SKIN_Private Joyce is already making waves in the local market. Its expansion has been fast.

It now has nine outlets, both company-owned and franchised. It is targeting to open two new outlets per quarter nationwide.

The company's net worth, according to the managing partners, has already doubled since it was formed.

For brand recall, it is initially capitalizing on its signature model and co-owner Joyce Jimenez who, according to the three other managing partners, exudes the elegant sexiness and glamour that the products epitomize.

Napa, a managing partner, in fact says that Joyce is one of the reasons for SKIN_Private Joyce's phenomenal growth. The other being the strong demand, particularly among Filipino women, for products that pamper tired bodies and minds, and enhance beauty.

The partners are confident that SKIN_Private Joyce will be able to create its own niche in the market and win a loyal following in the same fashion Body Shop and Victoria's Secret established theirs.

Affordability

Except for the perfume, which costs P298 a bottle, all its products sell for less than P200. The hand cleanser is priced the lowest at P55 a bottle. The price structure was set with the disposable income of its target market in mind. SKIN_Private Joyce caters primarily to the lower B and the C segments of the market, age between 18 and 45.

Despite its much-lower prices, the company says its products are comparable with leading foreign brands. They are especially formulated for the Filipino market using compounds imported from as far as Europe.

"We managed to bring down our prices to as low as possible because as a homegrown brand, we are not paying any royalty to anybody," Napa says.

Begre, the managing partner in charge of product development, says the company is continuously doing product research and development. SKIN_Private Joyce's products are results of researches. The formulation is done by trusted independent laboratories and each item sold was thoroughly tested and certified by the Bureau of Food and Drugs.

Image model and partner

The people behind the company are very hands-on. Joyce, for one, is not only an image model, she also does her share of the work particularly in strategizing and product development.

"My business partners and I have specific fields of expertise. I am more involved in product development and steering the creative direction for the brand. I help in deciding which fragrances to adopt, even in choosing the bottles to use and the color of the caps," the actress-turned-entrepreneur says.

Joyce says that she has to do her share of ensuring that the venture is doing good because it is her name at stake.

"It is my name, my company. Our products must be good, I have to protect my name. People think it is just my name behind the products, they are wrong, I am very much involved in this business," she says.

Joyce is no longer a greenhorn in the business with her intimate apparel venture—The Private Joyce Collections—making its own niche in the local market. It was, in fact, this venture, the offers she got to model personal care and cosmetics brands and her own personal skin care needs that gave her the idea to go into this line of business.

The partners

The other partners take care of the day-to-day affairs of the business. Napa is in charge of the franchising aspect; Manlapig, marketing and human resource, and Begre, operations, logistics and product development.

Prior to this venture, the three were into doing marketing and product development research and consultancy for other companies.

"A home care products manufacturing firm approached us to do some marketing research and strategizing for them and that's how we got the idea of putting up a skin care company ourselves," one of the managing partners says.

It was Joyce's manager and business partner Shirley Kuan that put them together with Joyce.

The company is continuously working on the development of new products and improvement of existing lines while aggressively expanding its market.

Strategy

While the current thrust is to penetrate the provinces, the people behind SKIN_Private Joyce have set their sights on venturing into the export market in five years time.

So far, the company is on track its target of opening two new outlets, every quarter.

Napa says SKIN_Private Joyce employs a franchising business model that has the potential to grow at an accelerated rate. A franchisee will need an initial investment of P550,000, inclusive of the franchise fee. In return, the franchisee gets an initial product inventory and packaging, kiosk design and production, and assistance in hiring and training sales personnel.

"We don't charge any royalty and there are not many opportunities out there like that," Napa says.

She says SKIN_Private Joyce gets a lot of walk-ins asking about getting a franchise.

"It would be easy for us to open so many kiosks in a month's time. However, we want to choose the right kind of business partners for the franchise. They must value their investment and give it as much effort as we do," Napa says.

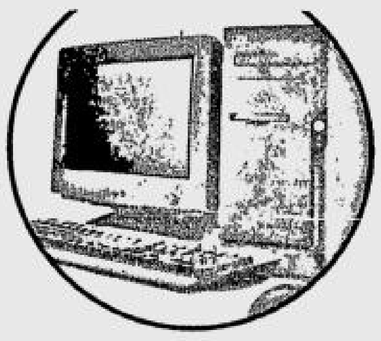
So far, all their outlets are doing very well despite the fact that some locations do not hold the same advantages as other are enjoying.

"It gives us a strong sense of accomplishment that we have built the brand to this level in six months. Despite that, we have many more things to do and we don't intend to slow down," she adds.

SKIN_Private Joyce' outlets include Robinson's Galleria, Robinson's Place Ermita, Ever Gotesco Grand Central, Ever Gotesco Commonwealth, Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall, Tutuban Center Mall 1, Farmer's Plaza and Metropolis Star in Alabang. Its first provincial outlet is in SM City, Pampanga. For this month, two new outlets—one in Metropoint and the other in Star Mall, are scheduled to open.

"In one year, we will truly be nationwide," the partners say.

FROM left: BONI Manlapig, Abba Napa, Joyce Jimenez and Geronimo Begre



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1 PHONE BOOTH	1 PHONE BOOTH	ArtFilm 1 JOHNNY ENGLISH 11:35, 1:40, 3:45, 5:50, 7:55	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 1 WHAT A GIRL WANTS 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30	THX 1 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
2 A MAN APART	2 A MAN APART	2 WHAT A GIRL WANTS 11:35, 1:45, 3:55, 6:05, 8:15	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 2 JOHNNY ENGLISH 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 11:30	2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 WHAT A GIRL WANTS	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 3 WHAT A GIRL WANTS 12:30, 2:30, 4:40, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	ACOUSTIC NIGHT OUT SERIES May 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 & 31	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 THE RECRUIT 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00, 11:30	3 PHONE BOOTH
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	5 THE RECRUIT		GUARANTEED SEATS 5 PHONE BOOTH 12:25, 2:15, 4:05, 5:55, 7:45, 9:35, 11:25	5 A MAN APART
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	7 EQUILIBRIUM			

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2	KAULAYAW
3	A MAN APART
4	JOHNNY ENGLISH
5	PHONE BOOTH
6	EQUILIBRIUM

M star

www.clickthecity.com.ph (Las Pinas) tel 873.5004

1	KANGAROO JACK
2	A MAN APART

PREMIERE CINEMA THX

(Makati City) TEL. 8934225, 8922503

Center Plaza Cinema

(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	TREASURE PLANET
2	STAR TREK NEMISSIS

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL INC

tel 930.9515

1	KASIPING
2	KAULAYAW
3	

Sunshine

(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	MALDITA
2	GOLDEN BULLET
3	
4	

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City

(Manila) tel 734.8588

1	A MAN A PART
4	THE CORE
5	PHONE BOOTH
6	SEX DRIVE
7	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
8	EQUILIBRIUM
9	JOHNNY ENGLISH

Gotesco Caloocan

tel 362.3508

2	RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central

(Caloocan) tel 365.7928

1	SEX DRIVE
2	THE CORE
3	PHONE BOOTH
4	JOHNNY ENGLISH
5	A MAN A PART
6	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
7	EQUILIBRIUM
8	KASIPING
9	KAULAYAW

Gotesco Commonwealth

tel 951.0082

1	SEX DRIVE
2	JOHNNY ENGLISH
3	A MAN A PART
4	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
5	PHONE BOOTH

Gotesco Ortigas

tel 656.6795

1	A MAN A PART
2	JOHNNY ENGLISH
3	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
4	SEX DRIVE
5	PHONE BOOTH

Universal

(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	JOHNNY ENGLISH

Sampaquita

(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	SEX DRIVE

Dilson

(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	BAHID
Lords	UNFAITHFUL CONCUBINE
Jennet	RESERVE

MARKET! MARKET!

Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	JOHNNY ENGLISH
2	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3	PHONE BOOTH
4	VIRGIN PEOPLE

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA

tel 733.4238

1	A MAN A PART
2	JOHNNY ENGLISH
3	KASIPING
4	PHONE BOOT
5	WHAT A GIRL WANTS

FRC Cinema

(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

1	
2	

Berma Cinema

(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 · 879.2029

1	SEX DRIVE
2	YOU & ME AGAINST THE WORLD

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Araneta

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400

1	SEX DRIVE
2	TEARS OF THE SUN
3	NATIONAL SECURITY
4	THE CORE
5	KANGAROO JACK
6	SOLARIS
7	THE RECRUIT

FarmersPlaza CINEMAS

tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400

1	SEX DRIVE
2	WILLARD

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall

(Sta. Rosa Laguna) TEL. (049) 837-8921

1	THE COR
2	
3	JOHNNY ENGL

Cinema 2000 Waltermart

(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	JOHNNY E
2	WHA WA
3	
4	THE COR

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall

(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
2	JOHNNY ENGLISH
3	PHONE BOOT
4	THE COI

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix

(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	THE CORE
2	THE RECRUIT
3	CRADLE TO THE GRAVE
4	

Cinema 2000 MetroTown

(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
2	THE CORE
3	RING
4	BANGER SISTER

Magic Star Cinema

(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

1	THE CORE
2	WILD THURNBERRY
3	THE CORY QUIRINO STORY

Lianas Cinema

(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1	KASIPING
2	KAULAYAW
3	RAMPADORA
4	JAIL BIRD

Lianas MovieCity

(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1	JOHNNY ENGLISH
2	SEX DRIVE
3	PHONE BOOTH
4	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
5	THE CORE

Olivarez Tri-Cinema

(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	JOHNNY ENGLISH
2	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3	KAULAYAW

Olivarez Los Baños

tel (049) 249.2558

1	JOHNNY ENGLISH
2	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3	SHE WALK BY NIGHT

Mega Center Mall

(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1	SEX DRIVE
2	JUST MARRIED
3	THE RECRUIT
4	THE CORE

Cabuyao

(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE

Emperor

(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	VIRGIN PEOPLE
2	DREAMCATCHERS
3	RESERVE

Fiesta World Mall

(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	SEX DRIVE
2	THE EYE
3	WILD THURNBERRY
4	BANGER SISTER

Jade Cinema

(Angeles City) tel (045)887-5001 TO 03

1	JOHNNY ENGLISH
2	RING-2
3	KANGAROO JACK
4	NATIONAL SECURITY

Cine Nepo Mall

(Angeles City) te (045) 887-0121

1	KANGAROO JACK
2	WILD THURNBERRY
3	NATIONAL SECURITY
4	JOHNNY ENGLISH

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Festival Supermall
Filinvest - Alabang

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SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 833-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR

4173868

1	PHONE BOOTH
2	THE CORE
3	A MAN APART
4	JOHNNY ENGLISH
5	EQUILIBRIUM
6	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
7	SEX DRIVE
8	NATIONAL SECURITY

SM CENTERPOINT

7149522 -7161416

1	A MAN APART
2	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3	EQUILIBRIUM
4	KANGAROO JACK
5	JOHNNY ENGLISH
6	SEX DRIVE
7	NATIONAL SECURITY
8	THE CORE
9	PHONE BOOTH
10	THE RECRUIT

SM CITY FAIRVIEW

9350749

1	KANGAROO JACK
2	NATIONAL SECURITY
3	SEX DRIVE
4	PHONE BOOTH
5	EQUILIBRIUM
6	JOHNNY ENGLISH
7	A MAN APART
8	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
9	THE CORE
10	THE RECRUIT
11	WILLARD
12	TEARS OF THE SUN

SM CITY MANILA

5239240

1	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
2	A MAN APART
3	NATIONAL SECURITY
4	JOHNNY ENGLISH
5	PHONE BOOTH
6	THE CORE
7	EQUILIBRIUM
8	THE RECRUIT
9	KANGAROO JACK
10	WILLARD
11	SEX DRIVE
12	JUST MARRIED

SM MEGAMALL

6331901 • 6329401

1	SOLARIS
2	PHONE BOOTH
3	EQUILIBRIUM
4	JOHNNY ENGLISH
5	NATIONAL SECURITY
6	THE RECRUIT
7	WILD THORNBERRYS
8	THE CORE
9	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
10	A MAN APART
11	KANGAROO JACK
12	SEX DRIVE

SM CITY NORTH EDSA

9295452

1	EQUILIBRIUM
2	NATIONAL SECURITY
3	SEX DRIVE
4	THE CORE
5	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
6	A MAN APART
7	JOHNNY ENGLISH
8	PHONE BOOTH

SM SOUTHMALL

8066888

1	PHONE BOOTH
2	THE RECRUIT
3	A MAN APART
4	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
5	KANGAROO JACK
6	NATIONAL SECURITY
7	JOHNNY ENGLISH
8	EQUILIBRIUM
9	THE CORE
10	SEX DRIVE

SM CITY CEBU

2313676

1	THE CORE
2	JOHNNY ENGLISH
3	THE WILD THORNBERRYS MOVIE
4	JUST MARRIED
5	FINAL DESTINATION 2
6	SEX & ZEN 2
7	EQUILIBRIUM
8	THE RECRUIT

SM CITY ILOILO

3209422

1	JUST MARRIED
2	CLOSED
3	THE CORE
4	FINAL DESTINATION 2
5	THE RECRUIT
6	JOHNNY ENGLISH
7	CLOSED
8	DREAMCATCHER

SM CITY PAMPANGA

7128015

1	THE CORE
2	THE WILD THORNBERRYS MOVIE
3	JOHNNY ENGLISH
4	NATIONAL SECURITY
5	EQUILIBRIUM
6	KANGAROO JACK

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT

8294975

1	JOHNNY ENGLISH
2	A MAN APART
3	PHONE BOOTH
4	WHAT A GIRL WANTS

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN

2514302

1	A MAN APART
2	JOHNNY ENGLISH
3	EQUILIBRIUM
4	PHONE BOOTH

SM CITY DAVAO

2976998

1	EQUILIBRIUM
2	JUST MARRIED
3	FINAL DESTINATION 2
4	THE RECRUIT
5	THE WILD THORNBERRYS MOVIE
6	JOHNNY ENGLISH

SM BICUTAN

776-3055

1	PHONE BOOTH
2	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3	JOHNNY ENGLISH
4	A MAN APART

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

859-2884

1	DREAMCATCHER
2	FINAL DESTINATION 2
3	JOHNNY ENGLISH
4	THE RECRUIT

THE PODIUM CINEMA

633-8976

1	PHONEBOOTH 10:00 FS/10:10 MF/12:00/1:50/3.40/5.30/7.20/9:10/10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:20 END
2	JOHNNY ENGLISH 11:00 FS/11:30 MF/1:25/3:20/5:15/7:10/9:05/10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:35 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
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Galleria

632- 9115- 16
633- 7641 loc. 279

THX	A MAN APART 11 MF, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00, 12:15 MF
2	A MAN APART
3	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
4	PHONE BOOTH
5	JOHNY ENGLISH
6	EQUILIBRIUM
7	THE RECRUIT
8	SEX DRIVE
9	NATIONAL SECURITY
10	SOLARIS

MATINEE PRICE: P90 THX cinema · P75 1 level cinemas
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Ermita

536 -7809- 12

1	A MAN APART
2	EQUILIBRIUM
3	NATIONAL SECURITY
4	PHONE BOOTH
5	SEX DRIVE
6	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
7	JOHNY ENGLISH

Metro East - Marcos hway

682- 8193 / 8280

1	JOHNY ENGLISH
2	SOLARIS
3	A MAN APART
4	NATIONAL SECURITY
5	EQUILIBRIUM
6	PHONE BOOTH
7	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
8	SEX DRIVE

Novaliches

935- 3229 - 30

1	A MAN APART
2	PHONE BOOTH
3	EQUILIBRIUM
4	JOHNY ENGLISH
5	THE RECRUIT
6	THE CORE
7	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
8	SEX DRIVE

Malabon Citisquare

288-0985 / 288-2575

1	A MAN APART
2	JOHNY ENGLISH
3	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
4	PHONE BOOTH

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp

875- 1927
961- 5318 / 5270

1	EQUILIBRIUM
2	KANGAROO JACK
3	WILD THORNBERRY
4	NATIONAL SECURITY
5	JUST MARRIED
6	JOHNY ENGLISH

Imus

471- 8188 / 875- 3838

1	ANGER MANAGEMENT
2	EQUILIBRIUM
3	JUNGLE BOOK
4	PHONE BOOTH
5	SEX DRIVE
6	WHAT A GIRL WANTS

Sta. Rosa Laguna

049-8370907

1	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
2	PHONE BOOTH
3	JOHNY ENGLISH
4	JUNGLE BOOK2
5	WILLARD

Bacolod

441- 0453 / 0459

1	JOHNY ENGLISH
2	EQUILIBRIUM
3	THE RECRUITS
4	FINAL DESTINATION
5	SEX DRIVE
6	WILLARD

Iloilo

336- 8077 - 78

1	JUST MARRIED
2	FINAL DESTINATION
3	THE RECRUIT
4	JOHNY ENGLISH
5	THE CORE
6	ASTERIX & OBELIX

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

'Beauty Plus' features real-life drama and Ricky Reyes' birthday

RICKY Reyes is not only known as the beauty architect and multi-awarded lifestyle and educational show host. He also has a heart of gold, extending support to the needy and less fortunate.

One of his charitable projects is "Munting Paraiso" for the children cancer patients of the Philippine General Hospital (PGH). He furnished a special wing for the ill-striken kids, with toys and complete playground equipment.

Last April 11, on the eve of his birthday, Mother Ricky was feted by his wards with songs and poetry that made him shed tears especially when he blew the single candle on the cake the PGH doctors gifted him with.

The celebrator and the managers of different Ricky Reyes salons in Manila distributed books, food and medicine, assisted by "Ganda ng Lola Mo" image model Gloria Romero and singer-TV game show host Arnel Ignacio.

The real life drama and special birthday event is featured on "Beauty Plus," 11 a.m. today on RPN 9.

The lifestyle-magazine program is directed by Cris Aquino.

Other portions are "Pretty Green Stories," where Menchie Saraza gives a testimony for being a regular ABS herbal medicine user.

TLRC demonstrates flavored and fortified juice in "Negosyo Kabayan," while the "HBC on the Go" seminar goes to the Ususan Covered Court in Taguig, Rizal.

Viewers will delight taking tips on a body shaper to be introduced in "Shape Up With Persona."

Bulacan's Princess Dy models in "Make Over Magic," with accessories from Marcella's.

"Beauty and Skin Talk" delves on skin whiteners.

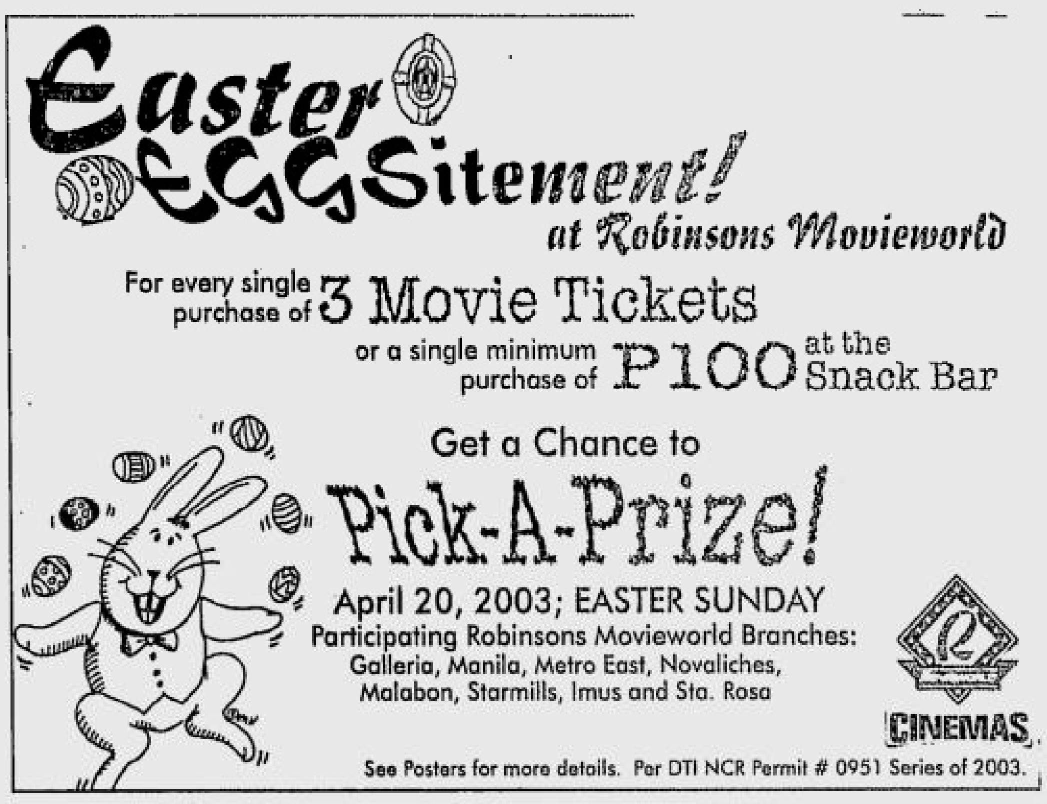
Axe Brazil!
The Brazilian Festival at
Greenbelt 3 Level 3, April 27 to May 3.

- Featuring the music of Brazilian band, Guarana.
- Smooth Brazilian dance and Martial Arts moves by the Grupo Capoiera Manila.

Other activities:

- Free Jam for local percussionists.
- Workshop on Capoiera Art supported by the Brazilian Embassy.
- Discount on food and drinks.

AYALA CENTER


Easter EGGSitement!
at Robinsons Movieworld

For every single purchase of 3 Movie Tickets
or a single minimum purchase of P100 at the Snack Bar

Get a Chance to
Pick-A-Prize!
April 20, 2003; EASTER SUNDAY
Participating Robinsons Movieworld Branches:
Galleria, Manila, Metro East, Novaliches,
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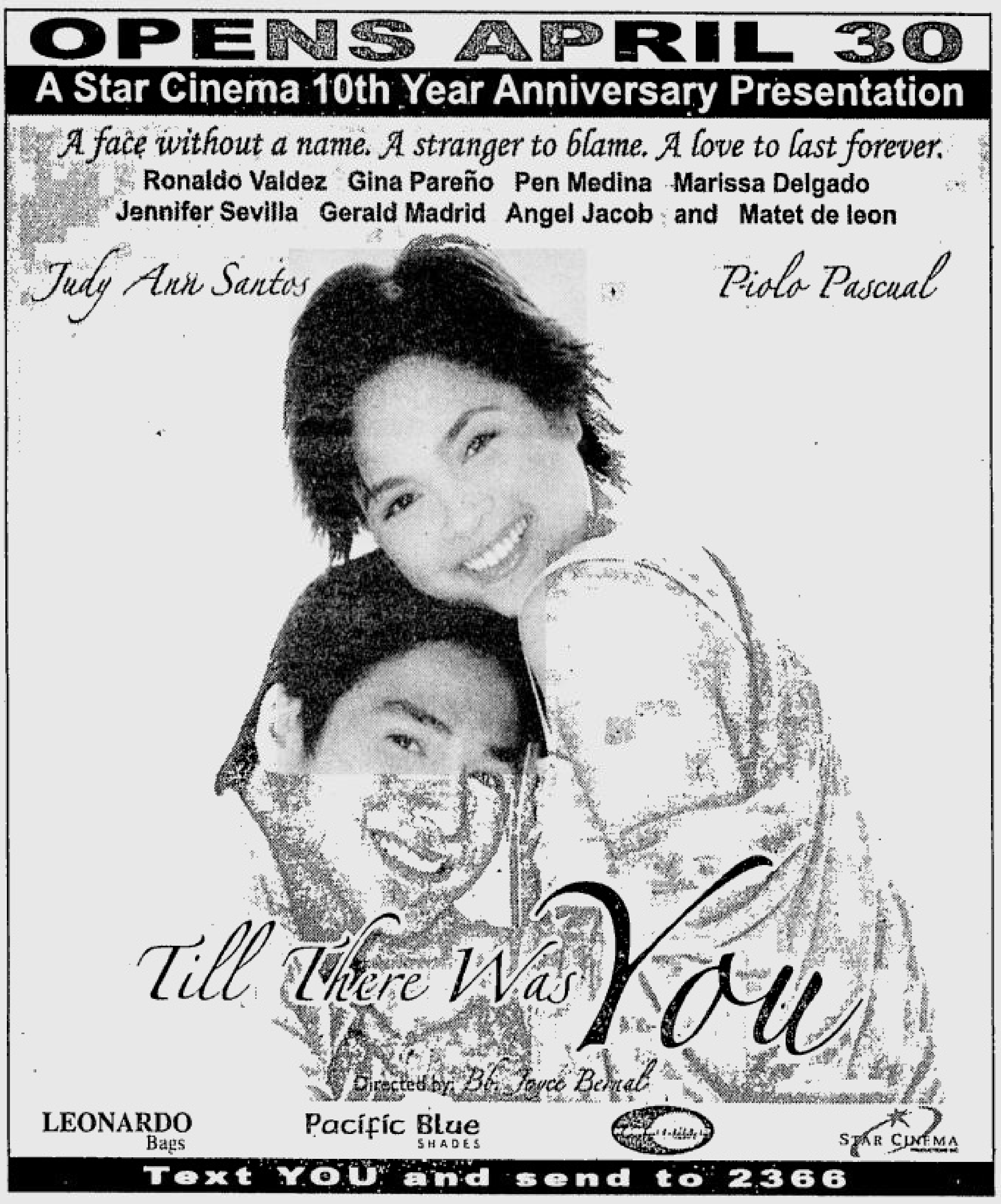
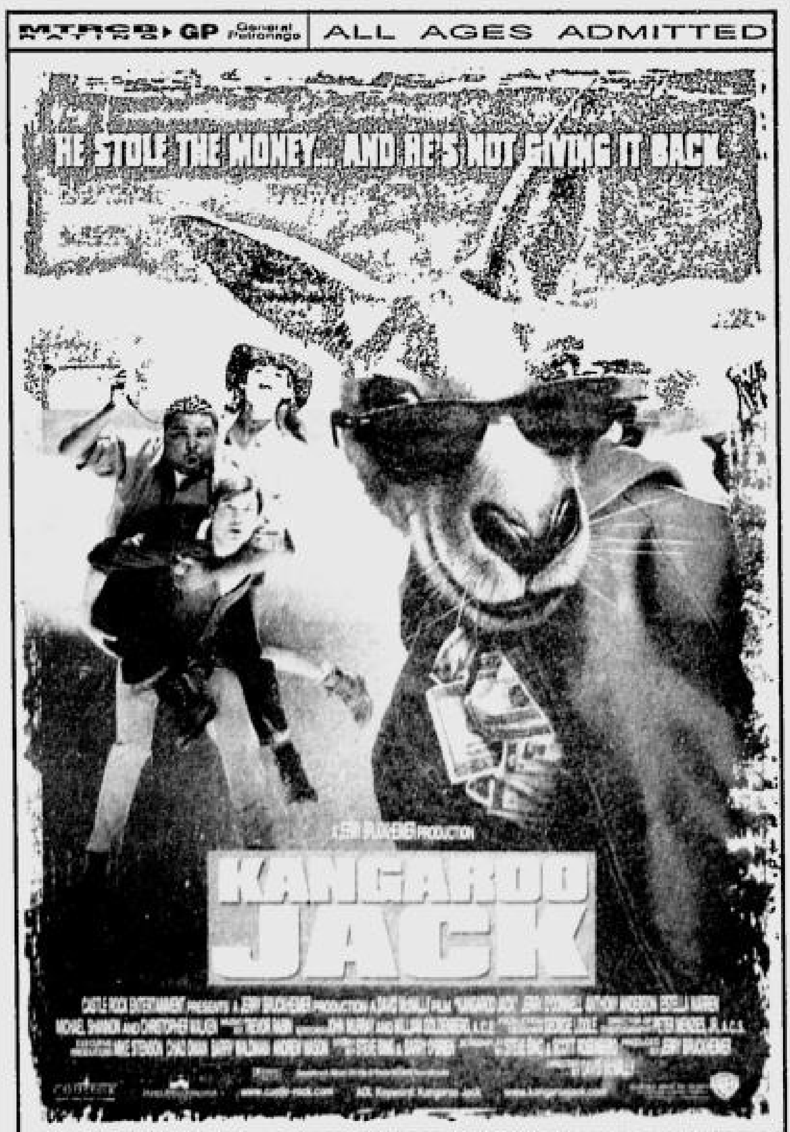
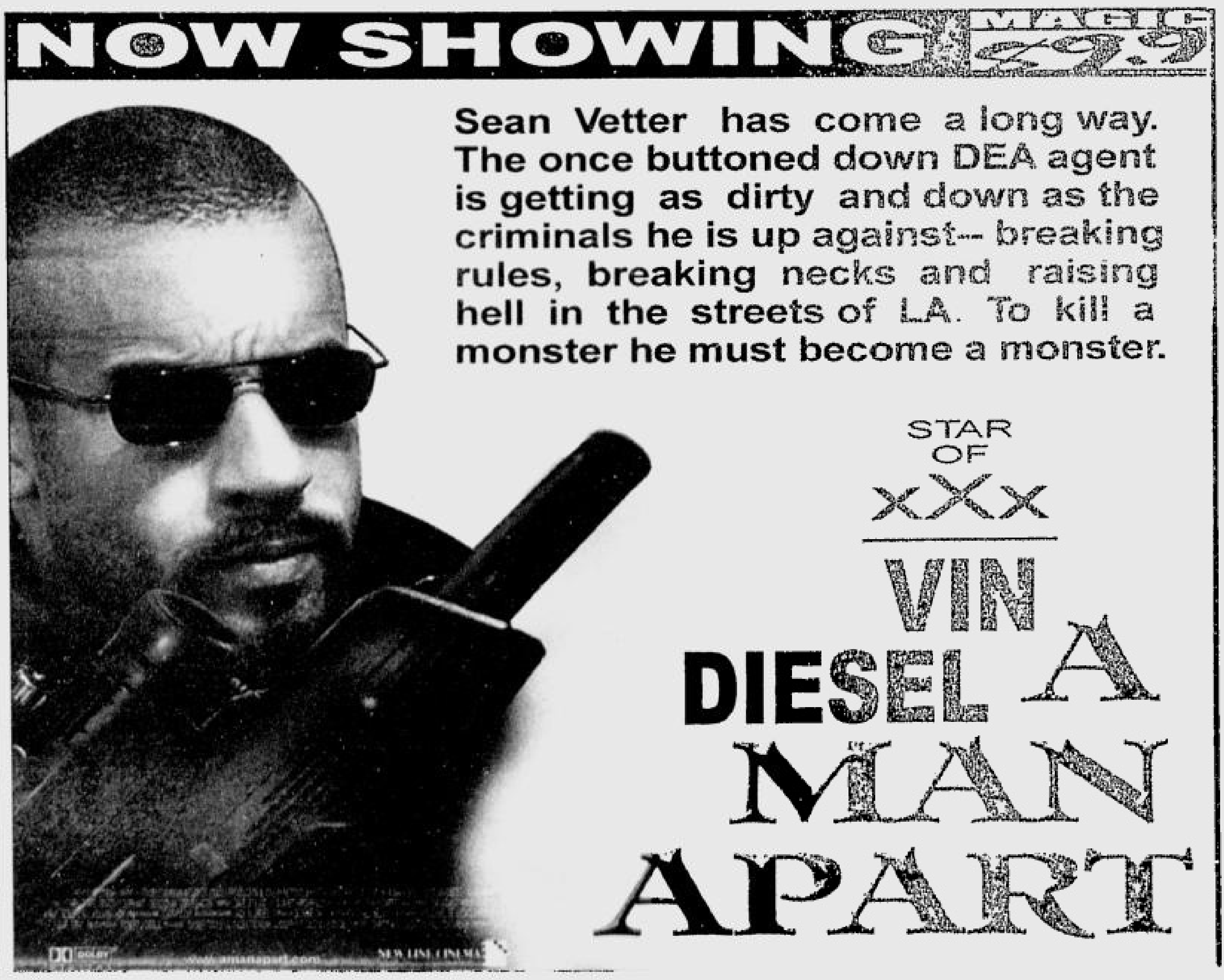
CINEMAS

See Posters for more details. Per DTI NCR Permit # 0951 Series of 2003.


OPENS APRIL 30
A Star Cinema 10th Year Anniversary Presentation
A face without a name. A stranger to blame. A love to last forever.
Ronaldo Valdez Gina Pareño Pen Medina Marissa Delgado
Jennifer Sevilla Gerald Madrid Angel Jacob and Matet de leon
Judy Ann Santos Piolo Pascual
Till There Was You
Directed by: Bb. Joyce Bernal
LEONARDO Bags
Pacific Blue SHADES
STAR CINEMA
Text YOU and send to 2366

X-MEN 2
IN THEATRES
SOON
MARVEL
WWW.X-MEN-THE-MOVIE.COM


MTRCB RATING GP General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED
NOW SHOWING
HE STOLE THE MONEY... AND HE'S NOT GIVING IT BACK.
KANGAROO JACK


NOW SHOWING
MAGIC 89.9
Sean Vetter has come a long way. The once buttoned down DEA agent is getting as dirty and down as the criminals he is up against-- breaking rules, breaking necks and raising hell in the streets of LA. To kill a monster he must become a monster.
STAR OF xXx
VIN DIESEL
A MAN APART

Venture starts with sale of square pizza called Sam's

Text and Photos by Allan Macatuno
PDI Central Luzon Desk

OLONGAPO CITY—From a small taco counter on Magsaysay Drive here, businessman Samuel del Rosario introduced pizza in this city in 1976.

The new fare, then simply called Sam's pizza, consisted of a unique blend of herbs, spices, a special dough and choice meats and vegetables.

Del Rosario says an Italian-American friend from the US Navy gave him a "formula" for his pizza as a gift. When Sam's Pizza was introduced to Olongapo residents, it became an instant hit.

Sam's Pizza offered the first "square pizza" in this city.

Del Rosario says he learned the ropes of business through his father, businessman Leonardo del Rosario who operates several movie houses in the city.

But the younger Del Rosario says he did not rely on his father's success and laid his own plans and goals to succeed in the business.

Enduring hardships

Del Rosario and his wife Celeste had to initially endure hardships to earn a living.

Del Rosario worked for his father while Celeste sold barbecue in front of her father-in-law's movie houses.

Del Rosario first established "Sam's Tacos" when he was a junior at the San Juan de Letran College. He developed it into the Sam's Pizza Restaurant on July 15, 1976.

Del Rosario handled the restaurant's purchasing and promotions while Celeste took care of finance. Their children helped by serving as receptionists, food servers, bartenders and dishwashers.

Sam's Pizza Restaurant now has 44 employees.

Del Rosario says he developed the restaurant to cater to a market that had become more demanding in terms of quality, dining atmosphere, value for money and service efficiency.

Pinatubo, bases pullout

He credits the growth of Sam's Pizza to the operation of the Subic Naval Base, where many American servicemen were stationed.

Sam's Pizza became an instant hit to Americans based in Subic because of its fare and its live entertainment.

But when the city was buried under 18-inches of ash during the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in June 1991, the pizza business slowed down.

"This was the darkest day of Olongapo City and the most difficult time for Sam's Pizza Restaurant," says Corazon Bandong, the restaurant's operations manager.

During this time, Bandong says, almost all business establishments in the city had shut down. Many residents had left the city and several buildings had been abandoned.

But Sam's Pizza defied the odds.

"Believe it or not, Sam's Pizza Restaurant did not stop its operations. We continued to serve customers because they also kept coming here. We used oil lamps to light the restaurant and we put empty sacks of rice to cover the ceiling and prevent ashes and sands from falling," Bandong says.

In 1992, Sam's Pizza Restaurant faced another challenge when American soldiers, who were its main customers, left the city after the Senate rejected the extension of the Philippine-US military bases agreement.

"Sam's Pizza Restaurant, during this time, was so fortunate that it did not suffer a great loss from the pullout of the US troops because since the beginning, we had been catering to families. The Americans are gone but our restaurant still exists," Bandong says.

She says Del Rosario has a knack for business.

"As a preparation for the transition of Olongapo's economy, he established Sayuri Japanese Restaurant near Ayala Alabang in 1992 and the Wonderpark Amusement Parlor in 1993," Bandong says.

This led to the creation of the Samuel del Rosario Inc. (SDRI).

The SDRI management rests squarely on the shoulders of Del Rosario who serves as company president and general manager.

"By December 1999, SDRI had grown to 11 companies within Metro Manila and Northern, Central and Southern Luzon," Bandong says.

With the company in place, Del Rosario saw the opportunity to expand and opened other related businesses such as hotels and restaurants, disco and entertainment houses.

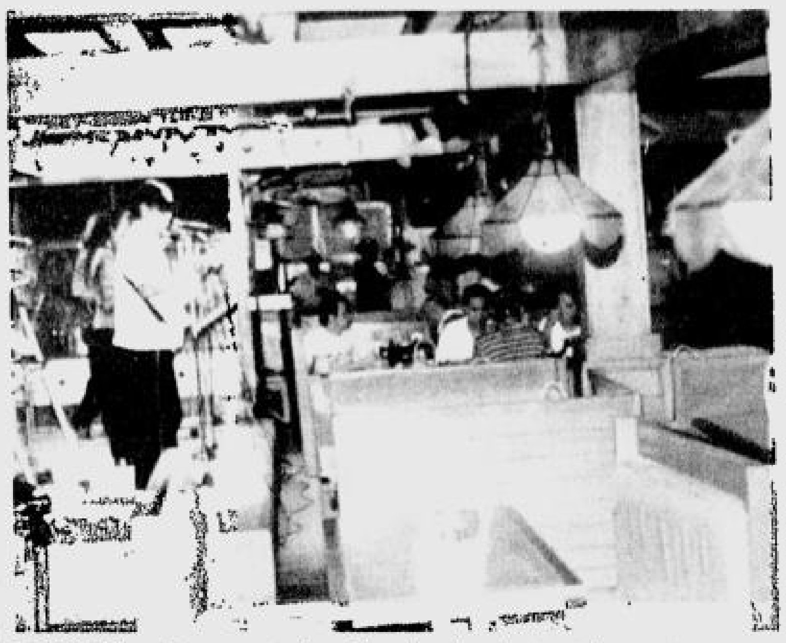
One of the most dramatic changes for the local pizza parlor came in 1994 when Sam's Pizza-Las Piñas opened, the first outlet outside Olongapo City.

Del Rosario says they will reopen the Sam's Pizza in Balanga City in Bataan.

"We believe that our continued emphasis on quality, friendliness, cleanliness and service constitutes the keystone of our successful operations. ," Del Rosario says.

He says the key to their success lies with their employees and franchisees.

"Their positive attitude and hard work have given Sam's Pizza the strength it is enjoying today," he adds.



SAM'S Pizza Restaurant also offers live band entertainment every night.

Entrepreneurial COO always wanted to be an employee

From page B20

on the job training in PLDT, he says he wants to "affect the youth."

"Not millions of them, but just one or two," adds the Economics graduate of UP who later on produced world-class movies like Rizal, Muro-Ami, Deathrow.

Butch's first job was to manage the mango plantation of the family in Pangasinan where he got a "baptism of fire" dealing with labor and the New People's Army.

After that he set up Monster Radio RX 93.1, which has grown to be one of the country's most popular stations.

He later on help set up the Trumpets Theater Company; is a co-owner of Optima Digital Inc., a post-production house; also of Soundcheck Inc. and Film Experts Inc.

And what will he tell the graduation class?

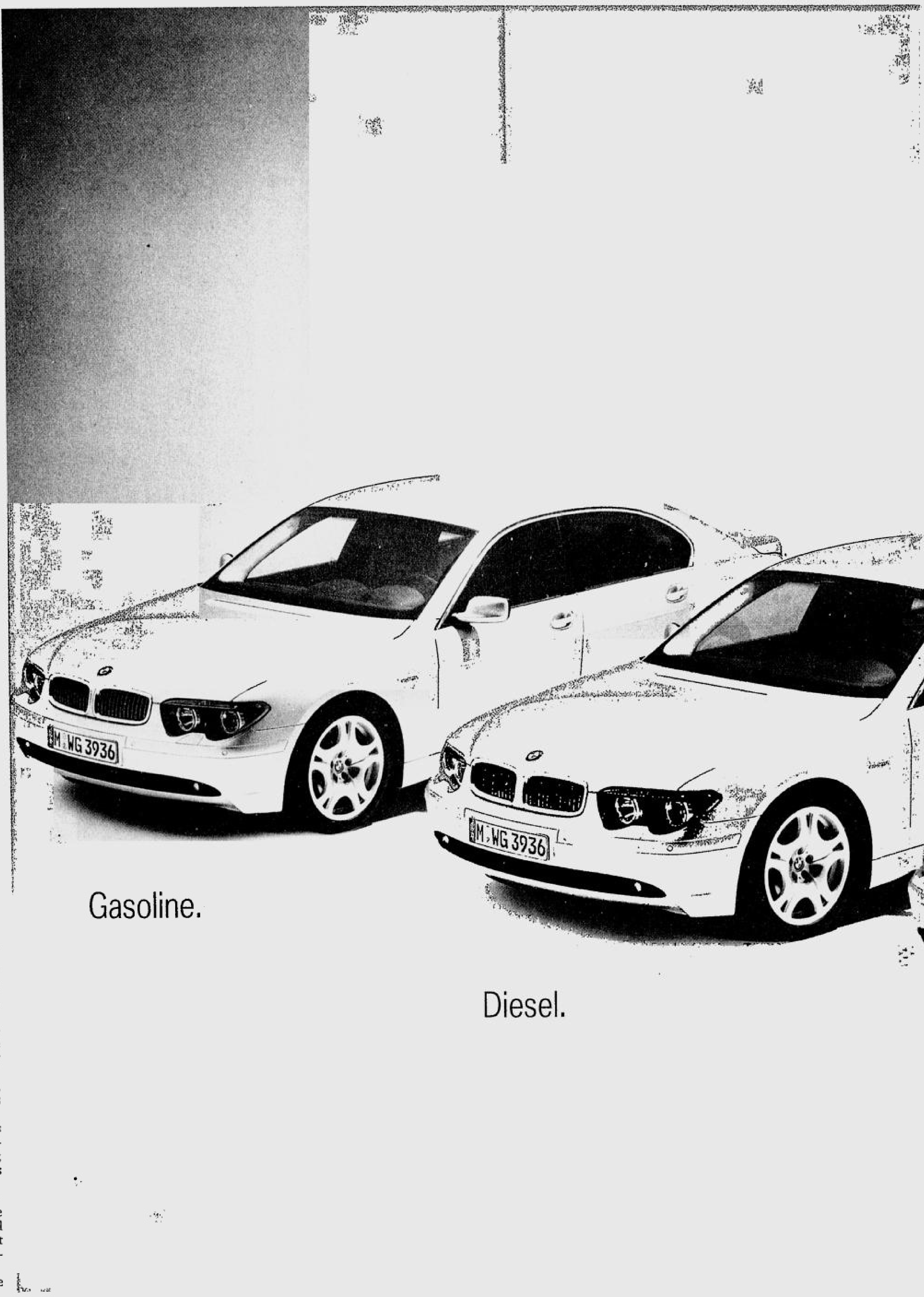
"I want to present my message and tell the youth that as soon as they graduate they will hear many advice that are good for them but that there is something better," says the 40-year-old.

"It is good to dream but … It is good to have a vision but … "

The but in the dreaming is that what is better is "imagineering," a proprietary word of Walt Disney. It is dreaming and engineering combined.

"And if you want to succeed in life, you must have a vision but beyond this you must have a cause, you must be able to fight for a cause," he states.

He cites the founder of Sony who built his business because he wanted to help rebuild post-war Japan via his venture. His cause was bigger than his desire to succeed in business.



BMW Philippines
2003

www.bmw.com.ph

Sheer Driving Pleasure

The letter M in BMW stands for "Motoren", and advanced engine technologies have always been the basis for the success of "Bayerische Motoren Werke". An impressive list of innovations and heavy investment in research and development has brought about BMW's leadership position in automotive technologies. To mention just the most recent examples: VALVETRONIC in the new BMW 7 Series' 8- and 12-cylinder gasoline

Terminal services firm adopts anti-SARS measures at ports

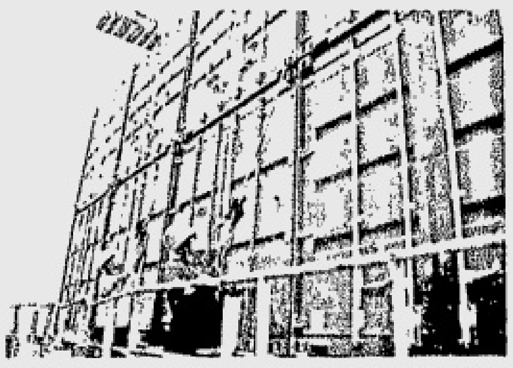
INTERNATIONAL Container Terminal Services Inc. (ICTSI) has intensified efforts to protect its flagship operation, the Manila International Container Terminal (MICT), from the Asian outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome or SARS.

To safeguard employees and port users as well as to avoid the transmission of SARS through the MICT, ICTSI implemented preventive measures against its spread.

No foreign vessels are allowed to berth at the MICT until health officials declare the vessel and its crew SARS-free. Vessels coming from the SARS hot spots such as China, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Singapore are only allowed up to the Manila Bay basin area. A quarantine team then ferries to the vessel and conducts medical examinations onboard.

MICT's Risk Management team is tasked to strictly implement the quarantine procedures set up by the Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Surveillance of the Department of Health (DOH).

ICTSI also enforced the use of dust masks by employees servicing vessels coming from the SARS hot spots. Meanwhile, as an added precautionary measure, DOH officials oriented ICTSI employees on SARS and its prevention. ICTSI also gave flu vaccinations to all employees as a preventive measure.


ICTSI intensifies efforts to protect its flagship operation, the Manila International Container Terminal (MICT) from SARS.

Moreover, all employees are not allowed to travel or to transit through these countries, whether for business or for personal reasons.

Electric firm's staff give light to specially abled students

From page B2

find jobs, what more for people like us?" he said. "Hopefully government can create more jobs for persons with disabilities and also for more companies and offices to be open to hiring handicapped people. That's all we're asking, give us a chance to work and prove ourselves."

Wally and Ricky are doing their best to overcome the obstacles they face everyday. They do well in school and try to excel in whatever employment they find. With help from concerned agencies and organizations, it would not be far off for them and others like them to attain the promise of becoming productive and valuable members of society.

Plumber . . .

From page B20

He proudly says he has always met his clients' deadline, which means that he has to work overtime just to get the work done.

He uses different materials such as wood, cement or marble depending on the customer's preference and budget.

And depending on the size and the materials used, the price per image ranges from P10,000 to P85,000.

Tedious part

Vibar says sculpting the eyes of the image is the most difficult part of the process.

"When you make the eyes and these don't fit the image, then the whole thing will be useless, so I need to be very careful in making them," he explained.

The eyes are usually made from crystal, which his men melt and then mold into the desired shape to fit a certain figure. They can also make the statue's head and eyes move to make the figure more lifelike.

Destiny

Vibar says he never thought that he would end up making a living out of this craft, which he learned from his late father.

"I had no interest in it when I was just a kid, unlike my father who learned how to carve when he was four," he admits.

He says he only started helping his father in the business when he was already 33 years old since all 11 children ventured to different fields with him deciding to become a plumber.

The desire to earn more, however, forced him to take up sculpture as an additional source of income.

"I needed to look for an outlet to earn for my family, since I was already a family man that time, so I decided to help in my father's art shop," he says, adding, "I was encouraged since I saw how my father earned from it and I have no regrets now," Vibar stresses.

He says it is probably his destiny to be a sculptor.

"I knew even before that I could do what my father was doing but it was just that I did not have the heart for it before," he explains.

Own shop

When his father passed away in 2000, Ramon continued the tradition and put up his own art shop.

Equipped with excellent training from his late father, he shortly became a force to reckon with in the image-carving world. His first product was an image of the Santo Nino.

"Designing these images gives me sense of fulfillment," he says with a smile.

"I know my father is happy about what's going on now, because the job that he helped raise us did not end when he passed away," he says.

Tradition

Vibar and his workers have become part of the tradition during Lenten season, with their works being displayed and playing an important role in the traditional procession held during Good Friday.

He says almost 75 percent of the images on different *karos* (carts) that join in parade or procession during Holy week, came from their sweat.

"I'm very proud, especially when I already see our works on the streets during Good Friday," the sculptor says.

Vibar adds that many images of saints, Jesus Christ and other Holy personalities in different churches in the Bicol region came from his shop.

No miracle

As an expert in his own field, Vibar says he personally does not believe in crying images or images whose eyes shed blood.

"Even my late father who was in the industry for almost his life never believed in that. And that's our personal opinion," he stresses. "One can simply make the image cry and make people believe it's a miracle."

The real miracle is being able to carve magnificent images out of perseverance, patience and God-given talent.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY
Cory Alindogan is very much married to Monetary Board member Antonino Alindogan. This photo released by RCBC labeled her as the wife of Melito Salazar, another MB member. The photo came out in the last SundayBiz edition that featured the dinner reception for the delegates of the Asian Bankers Association planning committee hosted by RCBC owner Ambassador Alfonso Yuchengco. SundayBiz regrets the error. Photo below shows Mr. and Mrs. Antonino Alindogan.

Hydrogen.

engines, the first V8 diesel engines with Common Rail Technology, and the world's first "clean energy" fleet of automobiles that converts oxygen and hydrogen into water to power the most advanced BMW limousines. While commercial availability of hydrogen is still a thing of the future, you can nevertheless be sure that with BMW's advanced gasoline and diesel units you are still getting the very best that technology has to offer today. Without BMW, modern automotive technology would not have developed as it has.

Artists pay tribute to Mother Earth in free concert

SHOWS

TOP artists gather together in one event, "Earth Day Jam 2003" as they celebrate and pay tribute to the worldwide Earth Day Movements, on April 22 at the Baluarte Plano Luneta de Sta. Isabel in Intramuros, Manila.

Kuh Ledesma, Lou Bonnevie, Kyla, Jacqui Magno and John Lesaca will join top groups South Border, True Faith, Ang4gettables, Rockin' Revival, Pinikpikan and Moonstar '88 in an evening of music for Mother Earth.

BONNEVIE. Joins other artists in an Earth Day jam.

The show also features performance excerpts from Ballet Philippines and the Philippine Opera Company.

As the line up suggests, "Earth Day Jam 2003" is an exciting mix of entertainment that will appeal to all audiences.

Organized and staged by Dimitri Productions, the event will also feature various personalities from politics, environmental organizations and show biz to give their insights on "Environment Preservation."

There will be huge video screens and fireworks to complement the celebration.

"This is our third year in presenting an Earth Day event," says Dimitri Productions' director and associate producer Toto Gentica.

"But what makes this one more exciting is that it will be held in a bigger venue and it will be free to the public. We have exciting performers and we have a very loose, party atmosphere that will complement the musical jams. The greatest part is that we're all coming together for a good cause."

REYES. In concert at Arkdia.

The project is presented by PLDT and supported by the Department of Tourism and Ayala Foundation.

Minor sponsors include Compass Internet, Little Caesar, NU 107 and 105.1 Crossover.

For more information, call 890-7145 or 525-1297.

Show starts 8 p.m.

Arkdia

SINGER-ACTRESS Daisy Reyes holds a special performance at Arkdia Bar on April 23, 9 p.m.

Featuring the concert music of Legatto and Surreal, the concert is mounted by AIM Productions and Arkdia.

Sponsors are Blue Tip Security Agency, BNY Bunny Jeans and Lone Star Light.

Tickets are at P500 inclusive of two drinks. Call AIM office at 655-7995 or Arkdia at 400-9974.

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Adam Sandler, Jack Nicholson offer non-stop laughs in fun, new comedy

In the No. 1 comedy in America, Adam Sandler and Jack Nicholson star together for the first time as patient and therapist -- though at times it's hard to tell which one is which!

After a misunderstanding aboard an airplane, mild-mannered Dave Buznik (Sandler) is ordered to attend anger management sessions run by outrageous psychiatrist Dr. Buddy Rydell (Nicholson).

Tortured by Buddy's wacky and abrasive confrontational methods, Dave must decide whether to crawl back into his shell or stand up for himself, and keep his girl (Marisa Tomei) along the way.

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May 1-2 / 2 sessions
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lecturer: IBARRA DERI
APRIL 28-May 2 / 5 sessions
SPECIAL MAKE-UP & PROSTHETICS
lecturer: CECILLE BAUN
May 5-16 / 10 sessions
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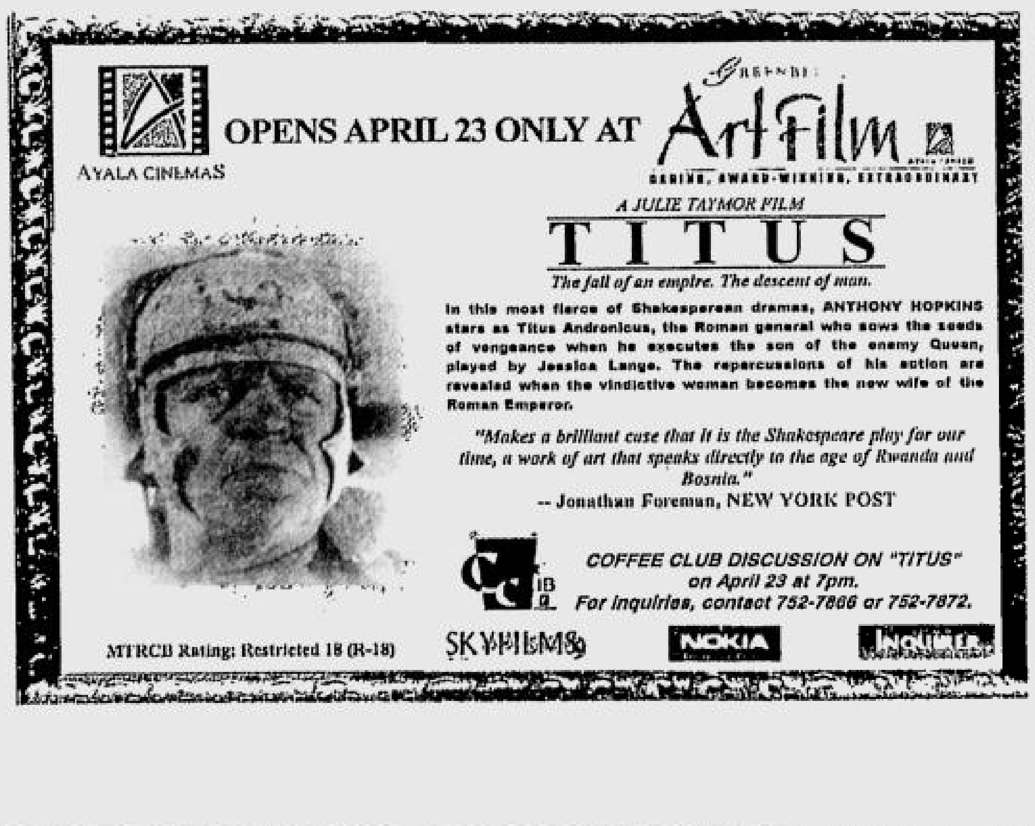

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"Makes a brilliant case that it is the Shakespeare play for our time, a work of art that speaks directly to the age of Rwanda and Bosnia."
-- Jonathan Foreman, NEW YORK POST
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Ali 1	SEX DRIVE
Ali 2	TEARS OF THE SUN
Ali 3	NATIONAL SECURITY
Ali 4	THE CORE
Ali 5	KANGAROO JACK
Ali 6	SOLARIS
Ali 7	THE RECRUIT
FARMERS PLAZA CINEMAS	
Farmers 1	SEX DRIVE
Farmers 2	WILLARD
ARANETA COLISEUM	
APR 17 & 18	SHALOM
APR 20	PBA GAMES
APR 21 & 23	NCA 7 COCK DERBY
ELEPHANT WORLD	
4 PM	ELEPHANT
5 PM	EASTER
6 PM	PARADE SHOW

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO/BETTER THAN SEX
ODEON	THE CORE
ODEON-2	BUSINESS FOR PLEASURE/KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ROBEN	SEX DRIVE
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	[illegible]
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	PORNOGRAPHER / IKA-7 GLORIA
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	VIRGIN PEOPLE
REMAR	SEX DRIVE
REMAR-2	CORY QUIRINO STORY
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A	YOU & ME AGAINST THE WORLD
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CINEMA-2	VIRGIN PEOPLE 3
CINEMA-3	SOLARIS
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	CORE
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	KANGAROO JACK
CINEMA-6	SEX DRIVE
CINEMA-7	WILLARD
CINEMA-8	KAULAYAW
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PHONE BOOTH
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	JOHNNY ENGLISH
CINEMA-12	A MAN APART
CINEMA-14	EQUILIBRIUM
CINEMA-15	WILD THORNBERRYS
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC CABANATUAN	
CINEMA 1	DIE ANOTHER DAY
CINEMA 2	BAHID
CINEMA 3	HARRY POTTER
[illegible]	[illegible]
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

Theater actor Michael Williams crosses over to mainstream entertainment

AFTER Lea Salonga and Leo Valdez conquered international theater, there was someone else who took West End by storm, but no one back here really took notice. They should have.

Michael Williams appeared in "Miss Saigon" as the understudy of all the main Asian male characters. He stayed in London for a year and then he landed the role of Lun Tha, Tuptim's romantic lead in "The King and I."

Michael did the role for a year as well, also going on the production's UK tour. A long list of productions follows Michael's very successful stint at West End. He played Javert in "Les Miserables," Che in "Evita" and Scrooge in "A Christmas Carol," among many others.

Now, Michael has come home and he's ready to sing for the Filipino audience. The only problem there is that it seems that almost all his life, Michael has been living behind masks up on the theater stage.

"I never get a chance to express myself as Michael. I've always stepped out behind a character," says the Repertory Philippines' resident chameleon.

"Now, I want the people who've seen me onstage all these years to know me as me. That would be the ultimate self-expression."

Michael has taken a hiatus from theater and has decided to spread his talented wings to do other things.

He wants to explore his seemingly limitless vocal and acting talents by doing gigs in lounges, recording an album under Dyna Records, starring as a character actor in a TV soap opera and dabbling in the silver screen.

Michael has directed his share of concerts and theater productions, so he knows what all of that would entail.

"There's a song in my head that wants to be recorded," Michael says. "A great part of me believes in the message of that song."

Michael will hold a series of show which will kick off April 22, 9 p.m. at Monk's Dream in Rockwell's Power Plant Mall. The series will mark Michael's foray into mainstream entertainment.

Michael will singing a repertoire of mostly jazz standards and Broadway songs, like "Lush Life," "Sophisticated Lady" and "My Romance," with Erroll Gallaspen on piano.

On May 22, Michael will do a solo performance in Singapore, which will follow his well-received solo concert in Taipei last April 12 and 13, sponsored by the American-Chinese Association.

Michael is now being managed by ALV Productions.

MONK'S DREAM SHOW. Michael Williams wants to explore his vocal talents.

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Revival worship album

TAKE time to reflect with new songs from the album, "Tayo Na!" EMI Music's second all-Filipino revival worship recording.

Christian artist PY sings "Abba," a simple love song about the Heavenly Father's care and concern.

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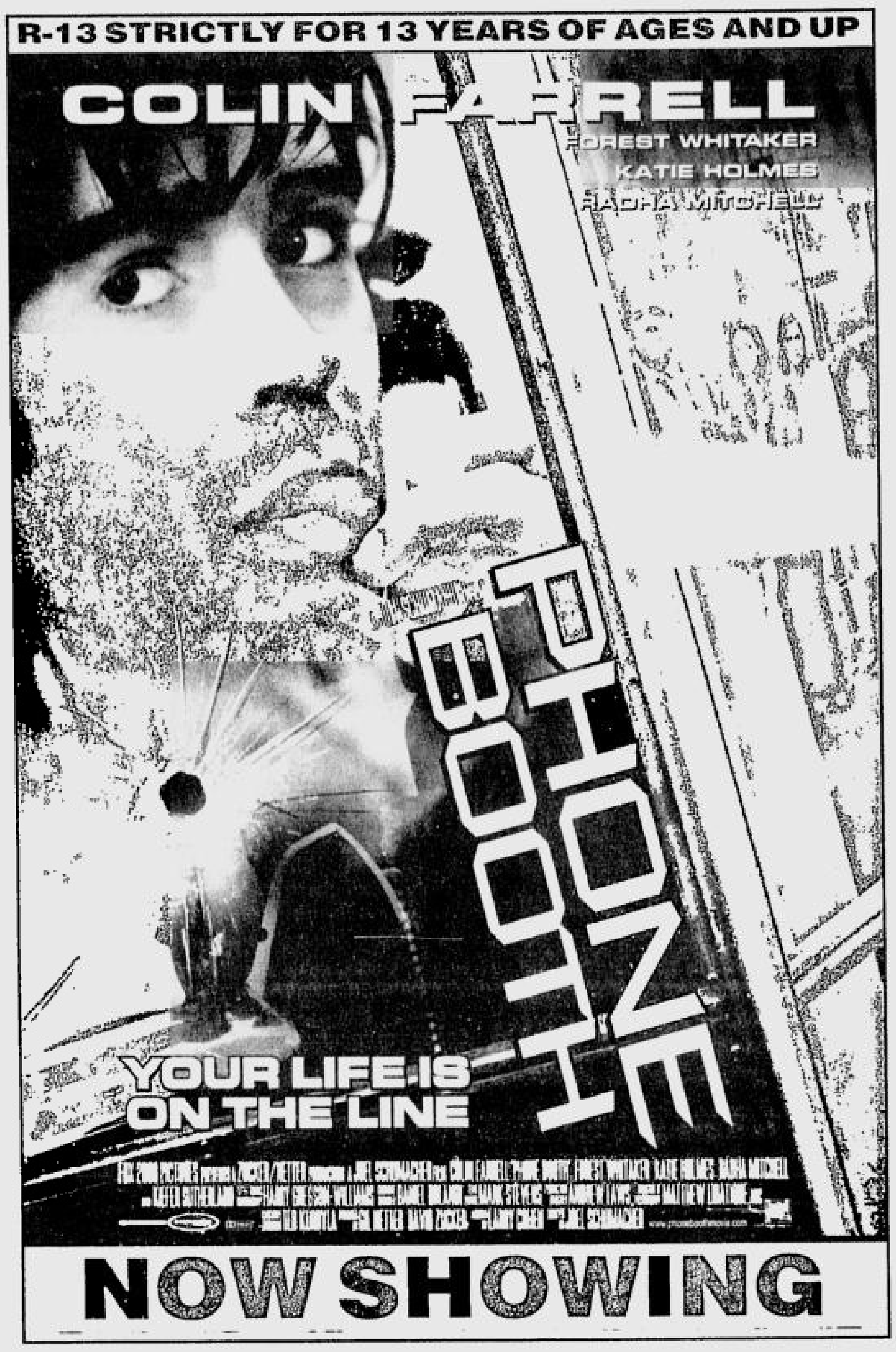
Also included in the album are songs of repentance and change.

"Pagbabalik" brings the listener to the Lord's loving embrace. "Espiritu Santo, Kaibigan Ko" calls on the Holy Spirit to effect a lasting change in a person's life.

"Tayo Na!" is available in CDs and cassettes. For inquiries, call 722-6749.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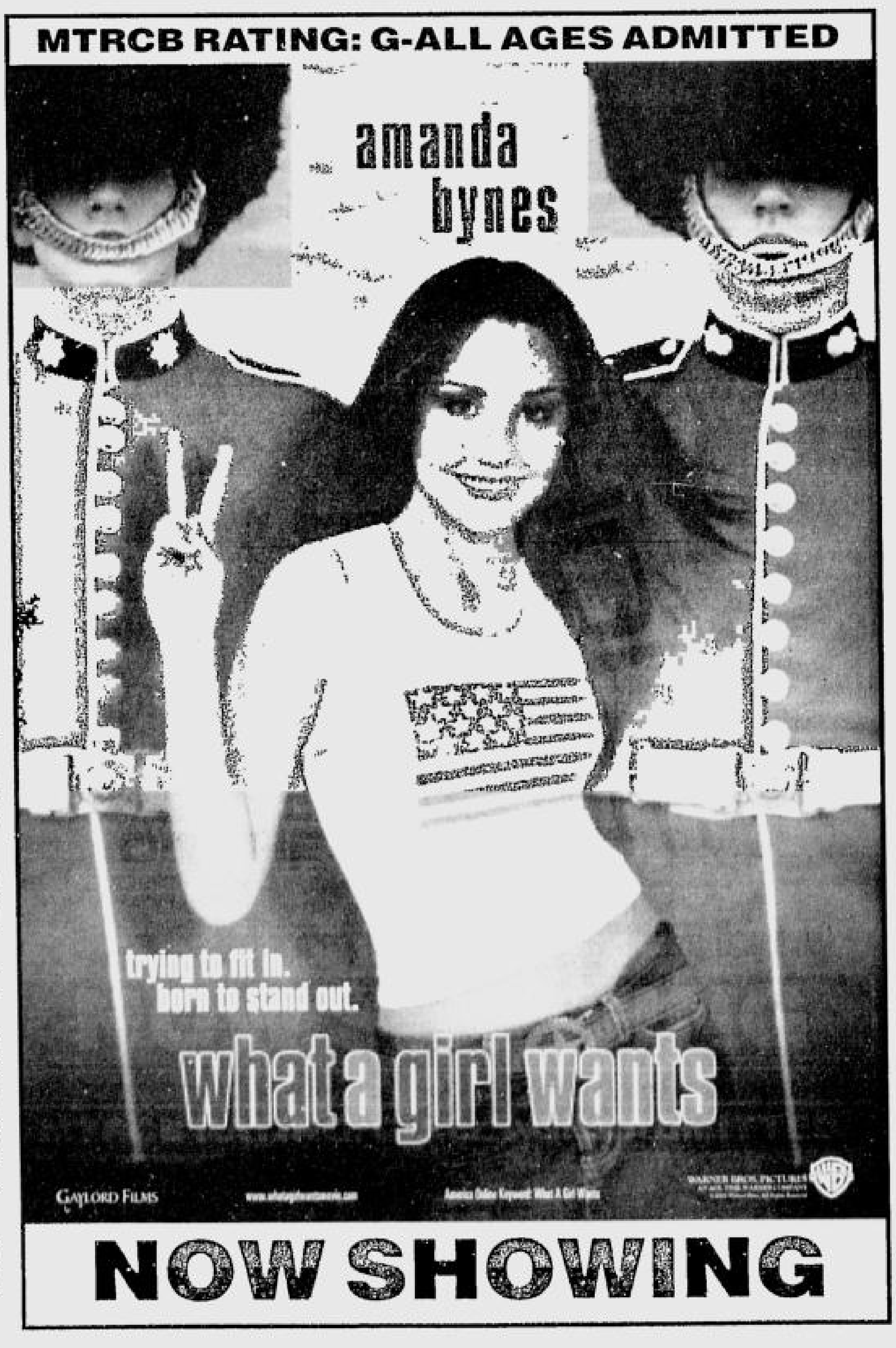
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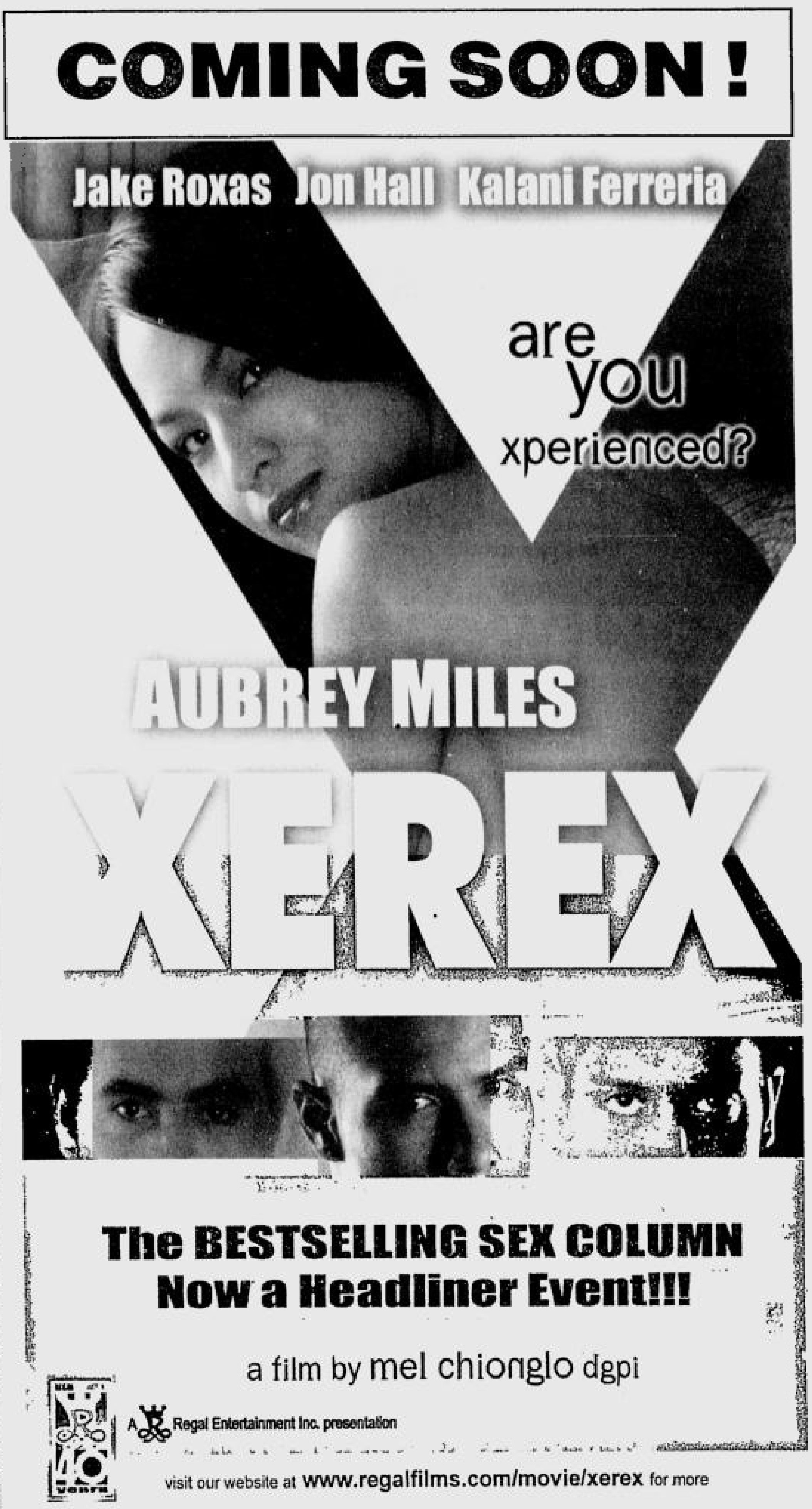
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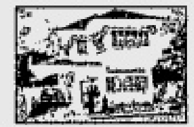

2 STRY, Single Detached
3BR 2TB 1CG
LA=120SQM
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P2.3M
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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

SAN JUAN

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

SAN JUAN

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With antique bricks from Vigan
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Min. Area : 171 sqm
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046-517 5123

LAGUNA

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MANILA

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NR LA SALLE TAFT
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Nr UST P3.6M 136FA 6453731

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QUEZON CITY

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LOT

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LAS PINAS

TALON 204m²@P4,500
639-1694 / 0917-8102903

MAKATI

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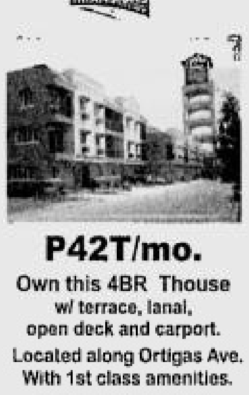
CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG



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MUNTINLUPA

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PARANAQUE

Marcelo Ph8 240m² 6454036

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

QUEZON CITY

CINCO HERMANOS 713 SQM 0917-4303478 OR 437-9371

Tierra Pura 450m2 931-4946

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TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240sqm P3,125/sqm Vic 8903461 Loc. 27

CAVITE

Southwoods 3.7Tm² 6459931

LAGUNA

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P600/sqm Neg. 0917-8447670

MILLWOOD SUBD LA100m P3.500/m Vic 8903461 loc. 27

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SAN MIGUEL LA4000m P250/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

TAAL Bings 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P186/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

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'97 Galant Matic FL lether seat 1st owner 369T- 2727813

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Holy Spirit Thou who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your perpetual glory. Amen - KS

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Marlin Javier
Juanito Saria
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Office of the Undersecretary

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Education through the Health and Nutrition Center is inviting all suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following packages:

Package	Description	Approved Budget
1	Printing and Delivery of International Growth Tables and Charts	P2,000,000.00
2	Printing and Delivery of Individual Health Cards	P2,250,000.00

All interested printers may avail of the bidding documents upon submission of a Letter of Intent and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00) starting **April 15-May 5, 2003** at the BAC Secretariat Office, Rm. 112-A, Mabini Bldg., DepEd Complex, Pasig City or visit the DepEd Website at *http://www.deped.gov.ph.*

A pre-bid conference will be held on **May 5, 2003**, 10:00 a.m. at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Bldg. 1, DepEd Complex, Pasig City. The deadline for the submission and opening of bids shall be on **May 19, 2003** at the same time and place mentioned above.

DepEd-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive any deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of the bids. DepEd-BAC further reserves the right to declare a failure of bid, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ
Undersecretary
Chairman, DepEd-BAC

(PDI-April 13 & 20, 2003)

AUCTION

IMPORTED FACTORY CONSUMABLES; OFFICE/STORAGE CONTAINERS; ELECTRICAL; OFFICE FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT; MISCELLANEOUS, ETC.

IN OVER 300 LOTS INCLUDING: -

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT - LINSCO 225KVA Transformer; (8) LIEBERT Power Conditioners; Asstd. Flood Lights; Industrial Lights; Asstd. Junction Boxes; Large Cap. Electrical Panel Boards, Switching Centres; Steel Conduits; Electric Cable; HUBBEL Electrical Outlets/Covers, etc.
VALVES/PNEUMATIC FITTINGS - DAWYER Floor Meters; PARKER Air Filters; Asstd. Pressure Regulators, OMATIC/ASAHI/RITZ/APOLLO Valves; HAYWARD Strainers; Asstd. SWAGELOCK Pneumatic Fittings, GEO FISHER Pneumatic Valves & Fittings; KINETICS Gas Stick Type Air Filters; Asstd. Pressure Gauges; PVC Connectors, etc.
MISCELLANEOUS - Aluminum Pole Drops; Fan Blowers; Aluminum Channels; Asstd. Pipe/Ductings, GYPSON Board, Acoustic Ceiling Panels w/ Supports; Stainless Steel Plate, Asstd. Drive Belts; Asstd. Filter Elements; Diesel Tank; Aluminum Screen; Steel Racks; (3) Cooling Towers; 40' / 20' Storage Containers; 40' / 20' Office/Storage Containers; WESTINGHOUSE Refrigerator; Asstd. Window/ Split Type Air Conditioners, STAR DUST Safety Lamps, etc.
OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - Work Station Furniture; ARNOX Plan Files; Steel Filing Cabinets, Steel Pedestal Drawers; Conference/Meeting Tables; Fabric Upholstered Clerical Chairs; Monobloc Chairs; H.P. Plotter, Asstd. PC's; Asstd. Telephone Handsets, etc.

ON: TUESDAY 22ND APRIL 2003 – 10 30AM
ON VIEW: MONDAY 21ST APRIL 2003 FROM 9 00AM TO 5 00PM & MORNING OF SALE DAYS
AT: FCT AREA, INTEL TECH PHILIPPINES INC GATEWAY BUSINESS PARK, BRGY JAVALERA, GENERAL TRIAS 4107 CAVITE, PHILIPPINES
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: (PHP20 000) UPON REGISTRATION

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PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER

East Avenue, Quezon City

The Philippine Heart Center, Division of Anesthesia is accepting applicants for Fellowship in Cardiovascular Anesthesia.

Applicants must be graduates of an accredited Anesthesia Residency Training Program. For inquiries contact OER Tel. **925-2401** local **3234-3236** or Anesthesia office local **2267-2268.**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The following persons are hereby notified of their overdue payments on their installments for the purchase of the following real estate properties, namely:

NAME	PROPERTY	PAYMENT(S) DUE
Felegunda Ascano	Neopolitan, PVII B178 L9 TCT# 37684	P 590,033.14
Ma. Dulce Arriola	Neopolitan, VIII B86 L25 TCT# 37468	1,633,572.72
Robert Ting / Lorena Angeles Serrano	Neopolitan, PVI B168 L102 TCT# 37540	1,247,807.07

The above-named-persons are hereby given a grace period of two (2) months from publication of this notice within which to pay the above mentioned sums to DBH Development Corporation at the 6th Floor, Renaissance Tower D, Meralco Ave., Pasig City. Failure to so pay the above amounts shall result in the cancellation of the Contracts to Sell by DBH Development Corporation.

(PDI - Apr. 20, 2003)

Send your resumé instantly.

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
OLD MIA ROAD, PASAY CITY,
METRO MANILA

IN RE: APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE FUEL SURCHARGE OF US$10 FOR A ONE WAY TRIP JOURNEY AND US$20 FOR A ROUNDTRIP/CIRCLE TRIP JOURNEY FOR ALL WORLD WIDE TRAVEL

CAB CASE No *EP-22543*

EMIRATES (EK),
Petitioner

x - x

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of RA 776, as amended, Notice is hereby given that **EMIRATES (EK)** has filed with the Civil Aeronautics Board a petition for approval of authority to impose fuel surcharge of US$10 for a one way trip journey and US$20 for a roundtrip/circle trip journey for all worldwide travel. The above-entitled case is scheduled for hearing on 29 April 2003 at 9:00 AM at the CAB Conference Room, Old MIA Road, Pasay City before the undersigned at which the applicant shall present relevant evidence.

The applicant is hereby required to have this Notice of Hearing published at least once two (2) weeks before the scheduled hearing in a newspaper of general circulation.

Let a copy of the petition and this Notice be posted at the CAB Bulletin Board beginning today.

10 April 2003
Pasay City, Philippines

(Sgd.) JOCELYN VILLAR-ALTAMIRA
Hearing Officer

(PDI-April 12 & 20, 2003)

SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Building 255 Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
TEL. NOS. (047) 252-4270 • 4214 • 4124 FAX NO. (047) 252-4284

April 9, 2003

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

All parties interested to bid for the below-listed items are invited to apply for application for eligibility and to bid with the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), Subic Bay Freeport Zone. Only eligible contractors/suppliers will be invited to participate in the public bidding of the below-listed project;

A. Project : **ONE (1) LOT SERVICES AND MATERIALS FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OFF-SHORE APPROACH LIGHT BARRETTE STEEL PILES AT RUNWAY #07, SBIA, SBFZ.**

B. Services to be performed include:
Installation of proper scaffolding and platform. The method for the installation and removal will be subject to approval of airport representative and authority to avoid any possible hazards in the working area. Scaffoldings and platforms will be removed upon completion of works. Removal of Foreign Object Debris present on piles and proper cleaning of surfaces prior to installation of reinforcing fabric cover material. Survey the piles to determine FOD's and most deteriorated part of piles prior to removal and surface cleaning. Collected FODs, waste and trash will be put and secured in plastic bags to be provided by the contractor. The supplier/contractor will supply and install the necessary materials for the services regardless of its volume required to complete the work on time and will be subjected to inspection and acceptance of SBIA administration. Detailed scope of work/services for the project will be provided upon issuance of bidding documents to all eligible contractors.

C. Approved Budget Cost : **Php = One (1) Million Four Hundred Sixty Thousand Pesos (P1,460,000.00)**

D. Application for Eligibility and to Bid is open to all pre-qualified contractors/suppliers. Prospective bidders are required to submit a letter of intent and certified true copy of the following documents:
1. Article of Incorporation
2. Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) Registration
3. Certificate of Registration with the Dept. of Trade and Industry (if not Corporation)
4. Valid Mayor's Permit
5. VAT Registration
6. Audited Financial Statement for the last two (2) years (stamped by BIR or its duly accredited/authorized banks, certified true copy)
7. PCAB License Category C, Small B
8. Company PROFILE
9. List of Related Projects (Past/Present)
10. List of Clients

E. Deadline and submission of Application for Eligibility to bid: **April 25, 2003, 5:00 p.m.** at BAC Secretariat Office, PPMD, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

F. Time and date of Submission and opening of bids, Pre-Bid Conference shall be confirmed through Bid Bulletin.

Bid documents shall be issued only to the eligible contractor duly notified by SBMA in writing upon payment of the non-refundable cost of bid documents.

All particulars relative to the eligibility process, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by Amended Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the procurement of Supplies & Materials.

SBMA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any defect therein and accept the offer it deems most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) ATTY. CHITO M. CRUZ
Chairman

(PDI - Apr 12 & 20, 2003)

SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Building 255 Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
TEL. NOS. (047) 252-4270 • 4214 • 4124 FAX NO. (047) 252-4284

April 9, 2003

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

All parties interested to bid for the below-listed items are invited to apply for application for eligibility and to bid with the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), Subic Bay Freeport Zone. Only eligible contractors/suppliers will be invited to participate in the bidding of the below-listed items;

A. ITEMS TO BID

QTY	U/I	ITEMS DESCRIPTION	APPROVED BUDGET COST
1	LOT	SERVICES AND MATERIALS TO SUPPLY, LAY, COMPACT, CORRECT AND TEST OF BITUMINOUS CONCRETE SURFACE COURSE (ITEM 310)	P 3,111,382.82

B. Complete specification/technical description of the subject items to bid will be provided upon issuance of bidding documents to all eligible suppliers/ contractors.

C. Application Particulars for Eligibility is open to all Contractors with the following requirements:
1. Article of Incorporation
2. Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) Registration
3. Certificate of Registration with the Dept. of Trade and Industry (if not Corporation)
4. Valid Mayor's Permit
5. BIR VAT Registration
6. Audited Financial Statement for the last two (2) years (stamped received by BIR or its duly accredited/authorized banks, certified true copy)
7. Company PROFILE
8. PCAB License Category C, Small B
9. List of related projects (past and present)
10. List of Clients

D. Deadline for submission of Accomplished for Eligibility to bid: **April 25, 2003, 5:00 p.m.** at BAC Secretariat Office, PPMD, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

E. Time and date of Submission and opening of bids, Pre-Bid Conference shall be confirmed through Bid Bulletin.

Bid documents shall be issued only to the eligible contractor duly notified by SBMA in writing upon payment of the non-refundable cost of bid documents.

All particulars relative to the eligibility process, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by Amended Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the procurement of Supplies & Materials.

SBMA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any defect therein and accept the offer it deems most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) ATTY. CHITO M. CRUZ
Chairman

(PDI - Apr 12 & 20, 2003)

Trade and Investment Development Corporation of the Philippines
(Philippine Export-Import Credit Agency)

TRADE AND INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The contract to be performed by the successful bidder shall consist of the provision of consultancy and systems development services for an internet-based trade information exchange (TRADEX) among Asian Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) and Export-Import Banks.
2. The Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid is P 15,000,000.00;
3. Interested parties are required to secure the list of basic requirements for registration and eligibility at the following address:
   MIS Department
   Trade and Investment Development Corporation of the Philippines
   3/F Citibank Center, Citibank Plaza
   8741 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1226
4. Schedule of bidding activities are as follows:

Submission of registration and eligibility requirements	**25 April 2003**
Pre-bid Conference	**28 April 2003**
Submission of Bids	**13 May 2003**

5. Bidding documents are available at the address given above upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P1,500.00.
6. Applications for Eligibility shall be evaluated using "PASS/FAIL" criteria and only Eligible Bidders shall be invited by TIDCORP in the bidding. All bids equal to or lower than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid shall be evaluated based on the responsiveness of the contractor's offer to the contract under bidding subject to Postqualification before an award is made. Bid Prices submitted higher than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid shall be rejected and returned outright.
7. TIDCORP reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids or request for registration without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government. TIDCORP assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred in connection with this bidding.
8. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) PHILIP B. SAGUN
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--April 12 & 20, 2003)

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Day before publication

He quietly left the world and all he loved.
His was a life of selfless service to others.
His were gentle hands that healed and soothed.
His was the soft voice that never sullied other people's lives.
His were ears that listened more than he talked.
He was a husband, a father, a friend, a scholar
and a gentleman!

ALFREDO T. RAMIREZ

U.P. College of Medicine 1961

beloved son of **DR. PEDRO BERNARDO RAMIREZ** (†)
U.P. C.M. 1930

DR. JOSEFINA TICZON-RAMIREZ (†)
U.P. C.M. 1936

beloved of **BELLA** and **CLARO ALFREDO RAMIREZ**

His cremated remains will be brought to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Church, Mahinhin St., U.P. Village, Quezon City for a 3 p.m. Mass on April 23, 2003, Wednesday. He will be laid to rest at a place where the pigeons he loved fly free... The Columbary of Sto. Niño de Cebu, San Agustin Seminary Campus, Fisheries St., Visayas Avenue, Quezon City.

Please pray for the eternal repose of the soul of our beloved **FREDDIE, ATR.**

Please omit flowers.

Atty. ROSARIO G. ENCARNACION

Senior Partner, Encarnacion Law Office
Former Commissioner, National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC)
Executive Vice-President, Federacion Internacional de Abogadas (FIDA)
Parliamentarian, Soroptomist International of Quezon City

(widow of the late **Atty. RAMON S. ENCARNACION**,
Former Delegate, 1971 Constitutional Convention representing the
1st District of Ilocos Sur)

Her son **JOSE MARIA** and daughter-in-law **MARIA NENETTE**; sisters **LOURDES** (†) and **VIRGINIA**; brothers **ALFONSO** (†) and **GONZALO, JR.**; in-laws; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Felicidad Chapel, Arlington Memorial Chapels, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, 23 April 2003 at the La Loma Catholic Cemetery, Caloocan City after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

MA. MAGDALENA FLORES-BAUTISTA

Deling peacefully joined Our Creator and her beloved husband Tony (of Malolos, Bulacan) on Wednesday, the 16th of April 2003, at the age of 80.

Her beloved children: *Nonette & Menchie, Milo & Susan, Mandy & Daisy, Arthur, Marian & Nick Gutierrez, Jr., M.D., Tenh & Gabby Consulta, Sherry Ann* and other grandchildren, relatives and friends, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Holy Trinity Chapel,
Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

Interment will be at the Family Mausoleum in Malolos, Bulacan. Details to follow.

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 10:39

"We are heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with Him so as to be glorified with Him."

We, the family of the late
"NORY"/"CAP"

BGEN. HONORIO G. CAPULONG

Who passed away April 20, 2002, wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to all who offered masses and prayers, sent messages of sympathy, visited and kept vigil with us, and who in many ways consoled us during our bereavement. This joyful **Easter**, please join us in celebrating, that as **NORY** believed in Christ, he has claimed his rightful inheritance won for him and for us all, by the **Risen Christ!**

Masses will be celebrated at:

7:00 AM	**St. Alphonsus di Liguori**, *Magallanes, Makati City*
7:30 AM	**Basilica of St. Ignatius**, *Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C.*
10:00 AM	**Mary the Queen**, *San Juan, Rizal*
12:00 NN	**St. John Fisher**, *Rancho Palos Verdes, Ca., USA*
12:30 NN	**Church of the Nativity**, *Torrance, Ca., USA*
3:00 PM	**Divine Mercy Shrine**, *Mandaluyong City*
4:00 PM	**St. Michael**, *Fort Bonifacio, Taguig*
8:30 PM	**San Roque Church**, *Mandaluyong City*

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

BENICIO FABRO DELOS REYES

Former Vice-Governor of Tarlac (1986-1988),
Mayor of Camiling, Tarlac (1972-1977)
DIED IN THE GRACE OF OUR LORD
on April 14, 2003 at the age of 82.

His loving wife **LUCILA**; his children **ARNULFO & NENA, SYLVIA & CONDE DANCEL, JOHNNY & MARITESS, CARMELO & MARIETA**; his grandchildren **VIVIAN & RIC, ARNOLD, DANIEL, CEDRIC, IJO, JOHNNY, BENGEL, IYA, DOREEN, MARILOU, BENICIO II, CAMILLE, AJ, JAZMIN, RICKY**; sister-in-law **ADOR**, relatives & friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Rizal St., Camiling, Tarlac.

Interment will be on Wednesday, APRIL 23, 2003 at the CAMILING MEMORIAL PARK after the 7:30 a.m. Mass at St. Michael Catholic Church.

Sana'y di magmaliw ang dati kong araw
Nang munti pang bata sa piling ni INAY ...

ILUMINADA VELASCO ATIENZA

(Of Calapan City in Oriental Mindoro & Parañaque City)
Our beloved INAY died peacefully
on April 17, 2003 at the age of 73.

Her loving husband, **Engr. Tranquilino S. Atienza**; children, Fe & Manny Quizon, Marlene & Ding Soriano, Tess V. Atienza, Mel & Ferdie Barbadillo, Baby & Ed Limjoco, Ollie & Ariel Coronel and Minnie Atienza-Alarcon; grandchildren, Bernadette & Mirelle; Daniel, Margaux, Isobelle & Andrea; Mariel; Anna, Jan & Jed; Gabriel & Raphael; and Quino, & Paula; sister Sofia; nephews & nieces; in-laws and other relatives request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Capilla San Jose of Mary, Mother of Good Counsel Parish, Marcelo Green Village, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, April 22, 2003 at the Manila Memorial Park in Parañaque City after the 8:00 AM Mass.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

siting us and being with us in our time of sorrows...
For praying with us and for us.
For the Mass cards and messages of sympathy and condolence..
For the beautiful flowers to express compassion..
For joining us in our nightly vigils...
For attending the Masses and funeral rites..
For thinking of us in our hour of grief...
For all that you have done to console our hearts..

Our sincerest gratitude
From the family of the late
AURORA L. DECENA

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❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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GUADALUPE DE LA ROSA VILLAGRACIA

Peacefully joined her Creator
on April 15, 2003.

Her loving husband **Benjamin**; children **Benjie** and **Audrey**, **Ronald**, **Susan** and **Ute**, **Rosalie** and **Antonio**; and grandchildren **Camille**, **Nathaniel**, **Ysabel**, **Yasmine**, **Yannah** and **Diego**; brothers and sisters **Ben**, **Mila**, **Violet**, **Jesse** and **Precy**; relatives and friends request the readers to pray for her eternal happiness in heaven.

Her remains lie in state at Mt. Carmel Shrine, New Manila, Quezon City.

Interment of ashes will be on April 21, 2003.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

In Loving Memory of

CHIC

Ma. Victoria Migallos Marasigan

(April 8, 1959 to April 20, 2002)

On Her First Death Anniversary

For certain my time will not be long...
But then I loved you forever.

The Missionary Sisters
Servants of the Holy Spirit
Announce the death of

SISTER CAMILLUS, S.SP.S. (ROSEMARY RYAN)

on April 18, 2003 at the age of 83
at the Convent of the Holy Spirit, Quezon City.

Mass of the Resurrection will be offered on Monday,
April 21, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

At the Convent of the Holy Spirit, 8 Poinsettia Road, Quezon City.

Interment will follow at the Christ the King Cemetery
E. Rodriguez Ave., Quezon City.

So Dearly Loved....

So Fondly Remembered....

So Truly Missed....

In Memory

of a devoted husband, a loving father,
a dedicated friend and an inspiring leader...

PHILIP J. GIELCZYK

on the 1st Anniversary of his rebirth to Eternal Life

Masses will be offered on April 20, 2003 at the following churches:

St. Vincent Parish Church .... 4:00 p.m.
Bogo, Cebu

Redemptorist Church .... 4:00 p.m.
Cebu City

San Fernando Parish Church .... 4:00 p.m.
Liloan, Cebu

San Narciso Parish Church .... 4:00 p.m.
Consolacion, Cebu

St. Martin de Porres .... 6:00 a.m.
UPS I, Parañaque City

Santuario de San Antonio Parish .... 4:30 p.m.
Forbes Park, Makati City

Rosalina Macapugay Vda. de Claridades

of **Obando & Malolos, Bulacan**

Joined her Creator on Good Friday
April 18, 2003

Her bereaved children **Joy & Jun**, **Frank & Cynthia**; grandchildren **Carl & Ryan**, **Jennifer**, **Solomon & Jacob**.

Her body lies in state at the Imperial Chapel of La Funeraria Paz on G. Araneta Avenue cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City.

Cremation will be held on Monday, April 21, 2003 at the La Funeraria Paz Crematory after the 1:00 p.m. Mass.

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of the stockholders of GSIS Mutual Fund, Inc. will be held at Level 8, Executive Lounge, GSIS Headquarters, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City on 30 April 2003 at 2:00 p.m.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Certification by the Corporate Secretary on the Sending of Notices and Existence of a Quorum
3. Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Last Stockholders' Meeting
4. Ratification of Corporate Acts
5. Election of Directors
6. Approval of the Disengagement of the Worldwide Investment Management Company of the Philippines, Inc. as Fund Manager and the Termination of Its Fund Management Agreement
7. Approval of the Appointment of Philam Asset Management, Inc. as New Fund Manager and the Execution of a New Fund Management Agreement
8. Other Matters
9. Adjournment

Registration starts at 1:30 p.m. and closes at 2:00 p.m. The meeting is expected to end at 4:00 p.m.

RICARDO MA. P.G. ONGKIKO
Corporate Secretary

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DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines is inviting Contractors with experience in government/private building construction for Eligibility Check for the construction of the proposed DBP Branch Building in San Francisco, Agusan del Sur with a budget of P 4.80 M.

Application for eligibility check is open to Contractors with (at least) "Medium A" IAC Category, registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission/Department of Trade and Industry and upon submission of its Certified Copy of the IAC Certification of Registration and Classification (valid for the period May 2003 - May 2004). Interested Contractors should signify their interest through a Letter of Intent and shall submit the documents listed in the eligibility requirement list available at the Architectural Design Division, 6th Floor, DBP Head Office, Makati City starting April 21, 2003 up to May 2, 2003.

All documents should be submitted not later than 4:00 p.m. on May 16, 2003 to:

THE CHAIRMAN
Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)
Architectural Design Division
6/F, Development Bank of the Philippines
Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave.,
Makati City

The Committee shall follow the selection procedure provided for under Republic Act No. 9184.

The Bank reserves the right to reject documents which do not comply with the requirements.

Only eligible contractors will be notified and required to submit technical and financial proposals in separate sealed envelopes.

For further inquiries, please call Arch. Jose C. de la Fuente at telephone number (02) 815-09-45.

Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--April 20 & 27, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Bldg. No. 1, San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003
Tel. Nos. 743-8301 locals 1125, 1132; Fax (632) 743-1829; 743-1786;
Direct 711-9502, 711-9503
e-mail address: osec@doh.gov.ph

Request for Quotations

Philippines
Early Childhood Development Project
Supply and Delivery of Various Drugs
RFQ No. ADB-ECD-03-DOH-001

1. The Government of the Philippines has received loans from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of the Early Childhood Development Project and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of these loans to payment under the contract for which this Invitation for Bids is issued.

2. The Department of Health now requests price quotations for the supply and delivery of the following drugs:

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit
1	Ferrous Sulfate Drops	850,000	Bottles
2	Ferrous Sulfate Syrup	569,010	Bottles
3	Albendazole	1,189,800	Tablets

3. International Shopping procedures will be conducted in accordance with ADB's procurement guidelines.

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the Procurement and Logistics Service (PLS). Building 26 Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila from **April 23 to May 26, 2003** between 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

5. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder at the said address upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **FIVE THOUSAND PESOS** (P5,000.00) or **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY US DOLLARS** (US$150.00), including mail fee for foreign suppliers. The method of payment may be cash or bank draft. If payment is in form of bank draft, the check should be to the account of the Department of Health. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons, telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process.

6. Quotations must be delivered at COBAC Office, Department of Health, Building 3, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila on or before 9:00 a.m. on **21 May 2003.**

7. Quotations must be accompanied by a Bid Security of not less than two (2%) percent of the total Bid Price in the currency of the quotation or another freely convertible currency. Late quotations shall be rejected. Quotations will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend on 21 May 2003 at 9:00 a.m. at the COBAC Office, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

8. Prior to opening of quotations, a pre-bid conference will also be held at the COBAC Office at 9:00 a.m. on 7 May 2003.

9. The Department of Health will not be responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of quotations

10. In the comparison of quotations, ADB's Domestic Preference Scheme will be applied in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the instruction to Bidders.

11. The DOH reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation, and to annul the bidding process and reject all quotations at any time prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders and to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such quotation as may be considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH, CESO II**
Assistant Secretary and Chairperson
Central Office Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI–April 20 & 27, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Drug Consignment System
Steering and Oversight Committee
Bldg. #3, SAN LAZARO COMPOUND
RIZAL AVENUE, STA. CRUZ, MANILA, PHILIPPINES
TEL. NO. (632) 743-83-01 LOCAL 1338

April 11, 2003

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

For Essential Drugs and Medicines Consignment
IFB No. 01-2003 (Consignment)

The Department of Health (DOH) hereby invites sealed bids/price offers from interested eligible suppliers for the Consignment of various Essential Drugs and Medicines (EDM) to all DOH Hospitals nationwide in accordance with the provisions and time schedule prescribed in DOH Administrative Order No. 5, s. 2003.

Only duly accredited DOH drugs and medicine suppliers as certified by the DOH Accreditation of Supplier's Committee for Drugs and Medicines and with valid Certificate of Product Registration (CPR) and who complied with Current Good Manufacturing Practice (CGMP) for 2003, as certified by the Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD), are qualified to participate for the consignment of these EDM.

The list of EDM, AO 5, bid proposal form and other requirements for eligibility and postqualification can be obtained from the DOH website (www.doh.gov.ph) or from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Management Services Support Cluster (c/o Ms. Connie Liberan, Supply Officer IV), Bldg. #2, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila, telefax: 711-68-31 or telephone: 743-83-01 loc. 1214 & 1225.

Prospective eligible bidder's request for clarifications must be in writing and must be submitted to the Drug Consignment System Steering and Oversight Committee (DCSSOC) Chairperson not later than **April 23, 2003**. The DCSSOC shall respond to the said request by issuing a Bid Bulletin if needed, and shall send response through fax to concerned bidder as well as post it in the DOH website.

Eligibility requirements and the bids in prescribed form must be submitted addressed to the Chairperson, DCSSOC not later than **10:00 a.m. on April 28, 2003** at the Information Management Service Conference Room, 2/F. Bldg. #9 Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The Department of Health reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to award of contract without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds to the Department of Health.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:

(Sgd.) ***JUANITO A. RUBIO, MD, MHA, FPCS, FACOG, CESO II***
Assistant Secretary of Health
Chairperson, Drug Consignment System Steering
and Oversight Committee

(PDI–April 13 & 20, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Center for Health Development for Cagayan Valley
Carig, Tuguegarao City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bids and Awards Committee of the DOH - Center for Health Development for Cagayan Valley, Carig, Tuguegarao City hereby invites interested bidders to a public bidding for drugs & medicines; medical, dental & laboratory supplies and reagents; office, computer & janitorial supplies and office equipment

The approved budget is sourced from GOP as follows

Drugs and medicines	P 7,401,654.00
Medical, dental & laboratory supplies and reagents	P 2,467,217.00
Office, computer & janitorial supplies and office equipment	P 2,081,134.00

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Issuance of Registration Requirements, Application for Eligibility and Bid Documents	April 14 to May 16, 2003 (Monday-Friday) 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. BAC Secretariat, DOH, CHD-CV
Pre-Bid Conference	May 2, 2003 - 8:30 a.m. Conference Hall of DOH, CHD-CV
Deadline for Submission of Sealed Bid Documents & Sealed Eligibility Requirements	May 20, 2003 8:30 a.m. - Drugs and Medicines May 21, 2003 8:30 a.m. - Medical, dental & laboratory supplies and reagents May 22, 2003 8:30 a.m. office, computer & janitorial supplies and office equipment Conference Hall of DOH, CHD-CV

Sealed bids will be opened immediately after deadline in the same place and on the same date.

Late bids will not be accepted

All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security

Bid documents shall be given upon payment of a non-refundable bid fee of P1,000.00

The RBAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and/or part thereof, to waive any defect contained therein and may accept the bid which is deemed most advantageous to the government and supportive to the needs of the DOH, CHD-CV, Tuguegarao City

For more details, please contact RBAC Secretariat at telephone no. 844-1748.

(Sgd.) **PURITA S. DANGA, MD, MPH, CESO IV**
OIC Director IV

(PDI Apr 11 & 20 2003)

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sbma SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Building 255 Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
TEL. NOS. (047) 252-4270 • 4214 • 4124 FAX NO. (047) 252-4284

April 9, 2003

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

All parties interested to bid for the below-listed items are invited to apply for application for eligibility and to bid with the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), Subic Bay Freeport Zone. Only eligible contractors/suppliers will be invited to participate in the bidding of the below-listed project;

A. Project : **ONE (1) LOT SERVICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF INDOOR BASKETBALL COURT, ERECTION, INSTALLATION & PAINTING WORKS**

B. Services to be performed include:

Erection and installation of Steel Columns and Tie Beams, Steel Rigid Frames and Fabricated Overhang Assembly, C-Purlins and Cross Bracings, Painting and installation of Roof Sheets for the construction of Indoor Basketball and Tennis Court located at Rizal Highway corner Manila Avenue, SBFZ. Contractor must provide Certified Welder Class A or Class B welded butt joints, horizontal, vertical and overhead welding, must be certified by the Testing Laboratory Company accredited by the Dept. of Public Works and Highway (DPWH). Detailed scope of work/services for the project will be provided upon issuance of bidding documents to all eligible contractors.

C. Approved Budget Cost :**Php = One (1) Million Six Hundred Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Pesos and Fifty Seven Centavos (P1,600,560.57)**

D. Application for Eligibility and to Bid is open to all pre-qualified contractors/suppliers. Prospective bidders are required to submit a letter of intent and certified true copy of the following documents:
   1. Article of Incorporation
   2. Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) Registration
   3. Certificate of Registration with the Dept. of Trade and Industry (if not Corporation)
   4. Valid Mayor's Permit
   5. VAT Registration
   6. Audited Financial Statement for the last two (2) years (stamped by BIR or its duly accredited/authorized banks, certified true copy)
   7. PCAB License Category C, Small B
   8 Company PROFILE
   9. List of Related Projects (Past/Present)
   10. List of Clients

E. Deadline and submission of Application for Eligibility to bid: **April 25, 2003, 5:00 p.m.** at BAC Secretariat Office, PPMD, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

F. Time and date of Submission and opening of bids, Pre-Bid Conference shall be confirmed through Bid Bulletin.

Bid documents shall be issued only to the eligible contractor duly notified by SBMA in writing upon payment of the non-refundable cost of bid documents.

All particulars relative to the eligibility process, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by Amended Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the procurement of Supplies & Materials.

SBMA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any defect therein and accept the offer it deems most advantageous to the Government

(Sgd.) **ATTY. CHITO M. CRUZ**
Chairman

(PDI - Apr 12 & 20 2003)

N O T I C E

Goodyear Eagle F1 Users On Road Hazard Warranty

□ We now have new procedures out for claiming Road Hazard Warranty, including new forms and requirements.

□ If you own Goodyear Eagle F1 tyres, please go back to the outlet where you purchased them and fill out a New Registration Form so that you may be qualified to claim warranty if any road hazard damage occurs on your tyres. Just present a COPY OF INVOICE and the Old Road Hazard Claim Card, only if a claim card was given to you.

□ If you have not registered with your outlet, and a road hazard damage occurred on your tyre, you may claim Road Hazard Warranty using the Old Road Hazard Claim Card but only until October 31, 2003. If you don't have the Road Hazard Claim Card, you may still claim Road Hazard Warranty but only until July 31, 2003. Both instances require you to present a COPY OF INVOICE.

□ So we urge you to go back to your tyre outlet to register for the New Road Hazard Warranty. For inquiries and concerns, please call the Goodyear Customer Service Hotline at 850-9999 loc. 101 to 105.

Center for Health Development II
SOUTHERN ISABELA GENERAL HOSPITAL
Santiago City (Isabela), Philippines
Tel. No. (078) 682-8123 Fax No. (078) 682-2029

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

The **SOUTHERN ISABELA GENERAL HOSPITAL**, Santiago City hereby invites interested suppliers to provide medical equipment, drugs and medicines, laboratory, x-ray, medical, office and janitorial supplies to this office.

Ony duly accredited manufacturers/suppliers as certified by the DOH may participate in the bidding. Bid documents can be secured from the SIGH HOBAC Secretariat, Administrative Services Section upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 500.00.

ACTIVITY	DATE/VENUE
Issuance of Bid Documents	April 21 - April 28, 2003
Submission of Eligibility Requirements	April 22 - May 6, 2003
Pre-Bid Conference	April 28, 2003 / Conference Room 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Submission and Opening of Sealed Bids 1. Drugs and Medicines, Medical, Surgical, Dental, X-Ray and Laboratory supplies 2. Office Supplies	May 13, 2003 / Conference Room 9:00 a.m. May 14, 2003 / Conference Room 1:30 p.m.
Post-Qualification & Bid Evaluation	May 15-30, 2003 / Conference Room

The SIGH reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the proposal received, or to accept such bids as maybe responsive and advantageous to the government.

For details, contact MARIA F. ACOSTA-HOBAC Member, SIGH.

(Sgd.) **JOSE ILDEFONSO B. COSTALES, JR., MD, MHA, FICS**
Chief of Hospital I

(PDI - Apr 16 & 20 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila

CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARD COMMITTEE (COBAC)

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY/ELIGIBILITY SCREENING AND TO BID

The Department of Health thru the Central Office and Awards Committee (COBAC) is inviting bids from accredited contractors of Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) with minimum license category "D and C" and registration of "Small B" for Building and Industrial Plant for the projects:

1. Repair/ Renovation of Budget Office, Building No. 2, DOH Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.
2. Repair/ Renovation of Building No. 4, DOH Compound, Manila.
3. Repair/ Rewiring of Records Section, IMS Office, DOH Compound, Manila.

The dates to be followed are:

	Project 1	Project 2	Project 3
1. Submission of Letter of Intent, PCAB license and Registration (Bring original copies of Contractor's License)	April 21-22, 2003	April 21-22, 2003	April 21-22, 2003
2. Submission of duly accomplished Eligibility documents	April 30, 2003	April 30, 2003	April 30, 2003
3. Posting of eligible contractors	May 7, 2003	May 7, 2003	May 7, 2003
4. Issuance of Bid/Tender Documents	May 12 & 13, 2003	May 12 & 13, 2003	May 12 & 13, 2003
5. Pre-bid Conference	10:00 AM May 20, 2003	2:00 PM May 20, 2003	10:00 AM May 21, 2003
6. Submission of Bids (Deadline)	10:00 AM June 11, 2003	2:00 PM June 11, 2003	10:00 AM June 13, 2003
7. Opening of Bids	10:00 AM June 11, 2003	2:00 PM June 11, 2003	10:00 AM June 13, 2003

All of the above activities shall be held at the Office of the COBAC Chairman, Building No. 3, DOH Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The complete set of bid documents may be purchased by the interested eligible bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of TWO THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (P2,000.00) for Project 1 and 2 and ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY PESOS ONLY (P1,250.00) for Project 3.

DOH-COBAC reserve the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal as evaluated by DOH-COBAC is the most advantageous to the Government.

DOH -COBAC assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

The Approved Budget Cost will be announced during the pre-bid conference.

(Sgd.) **ASEC. ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, M.D. MPH**
Chairperson, COBAC

(PDI – April 13 & 20, 2003)

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sbma SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Building 255 Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
TEL. NOS. (047) 252-4270 • 4214 • 4124 FAX NO. (047) 252-4284

April 9, 2003

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

All parties interested to bid for the below-listed items are invited to apply for application for eligibility and to bid with the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), Subic Bay Freeport Zone. Only eligible contractors. suppliers will be invited to participate in the bidding of the below-listed items;

A. Items **202 UNITS BRANDED DESKTOP COMPUTER SETS WITH ACCESSORIES**

B. Complete specification/technical description of the subject items to bid will be provided upon issuance of bidding documents to all eligible suppliers/contractors.

C. Application Particulars for Eligibility is open to all Contractors with the following requirements:
   1. Letter of Intent
   2. Article of Incorporation
   3. Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) Registration
   4. Certificate of Registration with the Dept. of Trade and Industry (if not Corporation)
   5. Valid Mayor's Permit
   6. VAT Registration
   7. Audited Financial Statement for the last two (2) years (certified true copy in sealed envelope)
   8. Presence of Exclusive/Authorized/Sole Distributorship Agreement from the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), document duly notarized at the point of origin
   9. Company PROFILE
   10. List of Products Carried
   11. List of Clients

D. Deadline for submission of Accomplished for Eligibility to bid: **April 25, 2003, 5:00 p.m.**

E. Time and date of Submission and opening of bids, Pre-Bid Conference shall be confirmed through Bid Bulletin.

Bid documents shall be issued only to the eligible contractor duly notified by SBMA in writing upon payment of the non-refundable cost of bid documents.

All particulars relative to the eligibility process, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by Amended Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the procurement of Supplies & Materials.

SBMA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any defect therein and accept the offer it deems most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. CHITO M. CRUZ**
Chairman

(PDI - Apr 12 & 20 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Northern Samar
Municipality of VICTORIA

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) received a loan from Asian Development Bank (ADB) for Agrarian Reform Communities Project (ARCP). Part of the proceeds will be applied to eligible payments under contract for rural infrastructure component.

The Local Government Unit (LGU) of Victoria, Northern Samar, as implementing partner, invites prospective bidders to register, apply for eligibility and to bid for the: **REHAB./IMPROVEMENT OF ARC CIRCUMFERENTIAL ROAD PHASE-1 w/ OVERFLOW BRIDGE** sub-project, located at VICTORIA FOOD BASKET ARC

Presentation of registration requirements per section 16.1.1 of IRR of EO 40 and issuance of eligibility statement forms will be on **April 29-30, 2003**, office hour from Hon. Elvira M. Jumamil of the Secretariat Office upon payment of non-refundable fee of TWO HUNDRED PESOS (P200.00) per set.

Registration requirements and accomplished eligibility forms together with letter of intent must be submitted in sealed envelope on or before **May 7, 2003**, office hour at Secretariat Office.

Eligible bidders will secure bidding documents at the Office of the Secretariat on **May 26, 2003** office hour, upon payment of non-refundable amount of EIGHT THOUSAND PESOS (P8,000.00) per set.

Pre-bid conference will be on **June 3, 2003**, 1:00 PM, SB Session Hall of this Municipality.

Submission and opening of bids will be on **June 17, 2003**, 9:00 AM, SB Session Hall of this Municipality. Bids must be accompanied by Bid Security in the form of cash, cashier's check or manager's check equivalent to 1% of the approved project cost. Late bids will not be accepted.

The approved budget cost for this project is **P17,090,288.33.** Only contractors categorized as MEDIUM and above by CIAP with appropriate classification are the subject of this invitation.

The PBAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligations whatsoever or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may incur in the preparation of bid and to accept the bid most advantageous to the Government. The provisions of EO 40/PD 1594 and its implementing Rules and Regulations, shall apply to this invitation.

For further inquiries you can call cell no. 09185212928

(Sgd.) Hon. **ANSELMO P. ALILUYA, JR.**
Chairman, PBAC

(PDI-April 20 & 28, 2003)

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY
VISIT US AT: www.[illegible]

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Office of the Secretary

INVITATION FOR BIDS

IFB No. ICHSP-2003-005HE

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Integrated Community Health Services Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for the Supply and Delivery of Additional Hospital Equipment for the Kalinga Provincial Hospital, Lubuagan District Hospital and Guimaras Provincial Hospital.
2. The Department of Health, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of hospital equipment described as follows:

Item No.	Description	Quantity
1.	Emergency Room Table	1
2.	Delivery Room Table with accessories	1
3.	Stretcher	1
4.	Wheelchair	1
5.	EENT Set	1
6.	Stethoscope, Adult	3
7.	Stethoscope, Pedia	3
8.	BP Apparatus, Pedia	3
9.	Laryngoscope	2
10.	Delivery Instrument Set	1
11.	Wheeled Trolley Bed	1
12.	Urinals	10
13.	Bed Pan	10
14.	IV Stand	10
15.	Dressing Tray Carriage	2
16.	Resuscitator, Pedia	1
17.	Resuscitator, Adult	1
18.	Refrigerator (Dietary use)	1
19.	Automatic Tissue Processor	1
20.	Automatic Slide Stainer	1
21.	Rotary Microtome	1
22.	Tissue Embedding Unit	1
23.	Microwave Staining Oven	1
24.	Tissue Oven	1
25.	Laboratory Incubator	1
26.	Automatic Hematology Analysor	1
27.	Volume Respirator	1
28.	Blood Gas Analyzer	1
29.	Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillator	1
30.	Emergency Cart	1
31.	Dental Chair, Hydraulic	1
32.	ICU Bed with Side Rails	3
33.	Diagnostic Set (Opthalmoscope/Otoscope)	1
34.	Food Trolley	1

3. The schedule of bid activities are as follows:

Activity	Date	Time	Venue
Issuance of Bid Documents	April 21 to May 15, 2003	8:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M.	COBAC Secretariat, Procurement and Logistics Service, Bldg. 26, San Lazaro Compound, DOH
Pre-Bid Conference	May 2, 2003	9:00 A.M.	Materials Management Division Conference Room, Bldg. 25, San Lazaro Compound, DOH
Deadline for Submission of Bids	May 19, 2003	9:00 A.M.	
Opening of Bids	May 19, 2003	9:01 A.M.	

4. International Shopping will be conducted in accordance with ADB's procurement guidelines and i- open to all Bidders from eligible source countries.
5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the inspect the Bidding Document as COBAC Secretariat, Procurement and Logistics Service, Bldg. 26, San Lazaro Compound Department of Health, Sta. Cruz, Manila
6. The Bidding Document, in the English language, may be purchased by interested Bidders at the address above or on submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) in cash or ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (US$100.00) plus mailing fee of US$50 in the form of bank draft. Documents for overseas delivery shall be sent by surface mail or courier. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery
7. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of not less than two Percent (2%) of the Total Bid Price. Prior to the Bid Opening, a Pre-Bid Conference will be held on the scheduled date at the address above.
8. The Department of Health will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.
9. In the comparison of Bids, ADB's Domestic Preference scheme will be applied in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Instruction to Bidders
10. The Department of Health reserves the right to reject any or all bids without disclosing any reason, to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to the DOH and to local health units.

(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH**
Assistant Secretary
Chairperson COBAC

(PDI – April. 15 & 20, 2003)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date: March 28, 2003
LOAN NO.: MIYAZAWA
CONTRACT NO.: Sp00.SMSRTL.Lw.-0304

1. The ***National Power Corporation (NPC)*** has received a loan from the ***Miyazawa Funds*** in Japanese Yen currency, and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for ***Furnishing, Delivery of Transmission Line Materials and Construction of San Manuel - San Roque 230kV DC/ST Transmission Line Project on Turn Key Basis.***
2. The ***National Transmission Corporation (TRANSCO),*** administering the implementation of the said project, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Furnishing, Delivery of Transmission Line Materials and Construction of San Manuel - San Roque 230kV DC/ST Transmission Line Project On Turnkey Basis (Sp00.SMSRTL.Lw-0304).
3. Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect and acquire the bidding documents at the ***Office of the Manager, Bids and Contracts Management Department, 2nd Floor, Building 2, National Transmission Corporation, Agham Road corner Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City (Zip Code 1104), Philippines, Tel. No.: 922-0401, Fax No.: 921-2308.***
4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders starting **April 4, 2003** upon submission of a written application to the above office, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***ten thousand pesos (Php 10,000.00).***
5. A two-envelope bidding procedure will be adopted. Bidders are to submit simultaneously two (2)-sealed envelopes, one (1) containing the technical proposal and one (1) containing the price proposal. Initially only the technical proposals are opened. Technical proposals which are submitted by non-qualified bidders or which are not substantially responsive are rejected. The substantially responsive technical proposals that have been submitted by qualified bidders are discussed with the bidders and the bidders are requested for full compliance to the specification. If the bidders deem necessary, he may submit a supplementary price proposal that only contain the changes in price resulting from the changes in the technical proposal. The original price proposal and the supplementary price proposal are opened simultaneously in public.
6. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of ***Sixty Six Thousand and Two Hundred Fifty US Dollars ($66,250.00).*** The bid security must be included with the technical proposal. The deadline for the submission bids will be on ***June 4, 2003 at 1:30 p.m.*** at the aforementioned address. Late submission will be rejected.
7. The technical proposals will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
8. The price proposals will be opened in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the time and date and at the address to be advised by the Employer after approval of the evaluation of the technical proposals.
9. TRANSCO reserves the right to reject any or all Bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
10. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) **WINIFREDO SM. PANGILINAN**
Chairman
Bids Award Committee

(PDI - Apr 12, 13, 15 & 20, 2003)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

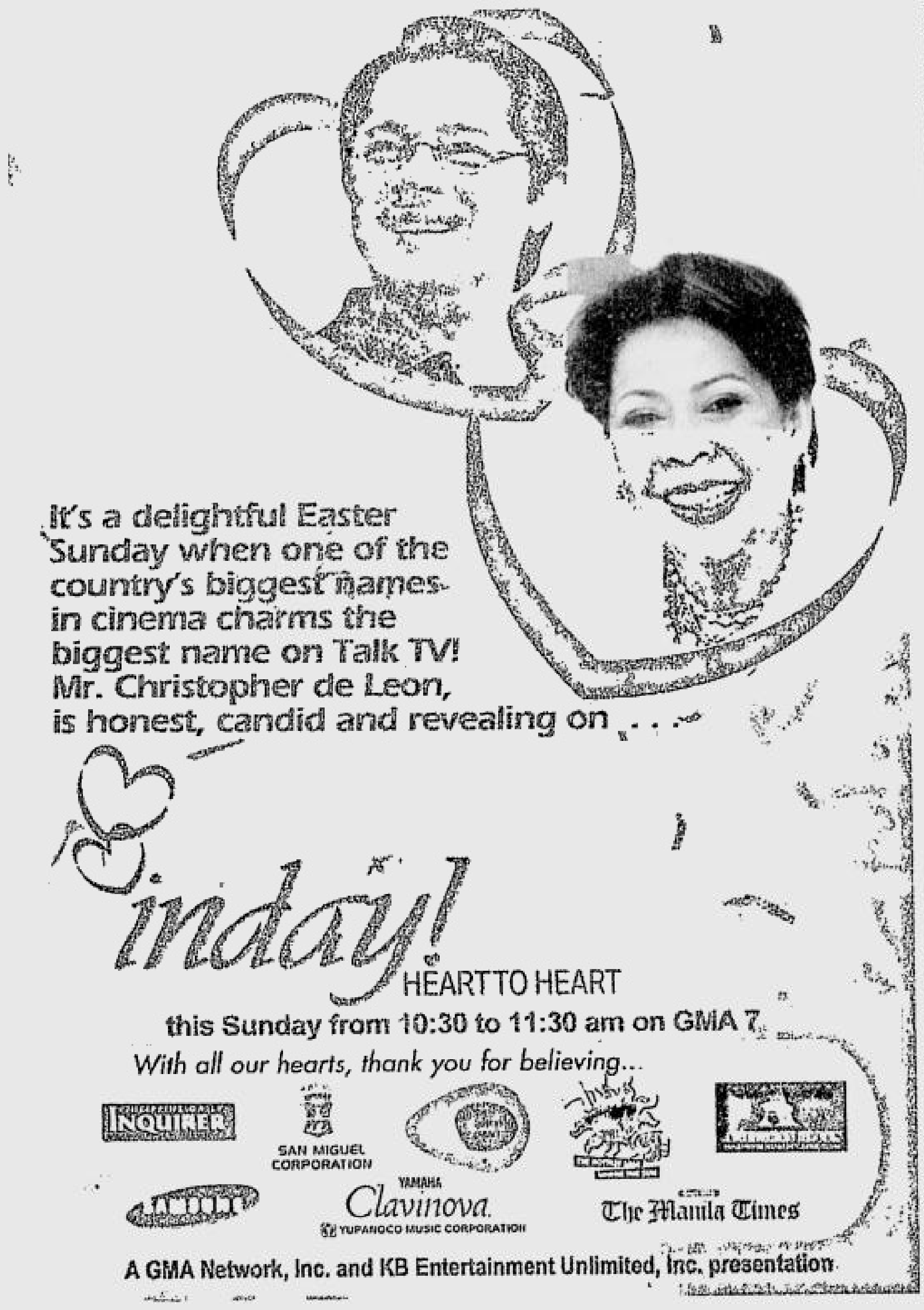
Date : April 01, 2003
Reference No.

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. Contract Code . **Sp99.N4P4.Vc-0282**
   Title : **Construction, Erection and Installation of 138 & 69KV Substation Equipment under the Negros IV – Panay IV Substation Projects, Schedule IV – Sta. Barbara Substation**
   Location **Sta. Barbara, Iloilo**
2. The works to be completed by the successful bidder shall consist of furnishing all superintendence, labor, materials, supplies, tools and equipment (except materials and equipment specified to be furnished by TRANSCO), and constructing complete the substation and installing all substation equipment to complete the Construction, Erection and Installation of 138 & 69kV Substation Equipment for Schedule IV – Sta. Barbara Substation in accordance with the Plans and Specifications. The work also includes construction of new control house, warehouse, guardhouse, pump house, oil water separator and water tank and water tank foundation;
3. The Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid is **TWENTY MILLION FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FIVE & 00/100 (PHP20,460,505.00)** from the Internal Cash Generation (ICG) of National Transmission Corporation.
4. Application for Eligibility is open to Filipino contractors who have the legal, technical and financial requisites of the contract to be bid/project with the following License and Registration Particulars:
   License at least "**Category A – Specialty: Electrical Works**"
   Registration : at least "**Medium B – Specialty: Electrical Works**"
5. Application for Eligibility shall be evaluated using "PASS/FAIL" criteria and only Eligible Bidders shall be invited by Transco in the bidding. All bids equal to or lower than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid shall be evaluated based on the responsiveness of the contractor's offer to the contract under bidding subject to Postqualification before an award is made. Bid Prices submitted higher than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid shall be rejected and returned outright.
6. Eligibility Documents and Forms will be available for issuance on April 08, 2003 at the Bids and Contracts Management Department, Second Floor, Building No. 2, NPC-OBC, National Transmission Corporation, Agham Road corner Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1104, Telefax No.: 921-23-08 upon presentation of Letter of Intent, Contractor's License and a payment of non-refundable fee of P800.00 per copy.
7. Deadline for submission of duly accomplished Application for Eligibility, Forms, documents and statements shall be on or before **May 08, 2003** and shall be submitted of the registration office and address mentioned above. If the date is a non-working day or declared non-working day, the deadline for submission shall be moved to the next working day immediately following said date. Late submission and/or incomplete application shall not be accepted.
8. Contractor, not yet included in the Transco's List of Registered Contractors, who wishes to participate in the public bidding, in order to facilitate eligibility check/screening, are requested to register with the registration office mentioned above by submitting the following basic requirements which sould be maintained current and updated at least once a year. A Certificate of Registration will be issued to contractors upon approval.
   - Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) business name registration or Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) registration certificate, as appropriate;
   - Mayor's permit and/or municipal license for the current year;
   - Taxpayer's Identification Number;
   - Notarized statement of the prospective bidder that it is not "blacklisted" or barred from bidding by any government agency, office or corporation, including, in the case of procurement of civil works, non-inclusion in the "blacklist" of contractors issued by the CIAP;
   - Audited financial statements, stamped "received" by the BIR or its duly accredited and authorized institutions, for the immediately preceding calendar year, showing, among others, the prospective bidder's total and current assets and liabilities inclusive of Income Tax Return and Receipt;
   - Contractor's License.
9. TransCo reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids or request for registration without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
10. Additional Information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) **WINIFREDO SM. PANGILINAN**
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – April 20, 21 & 23, 2003)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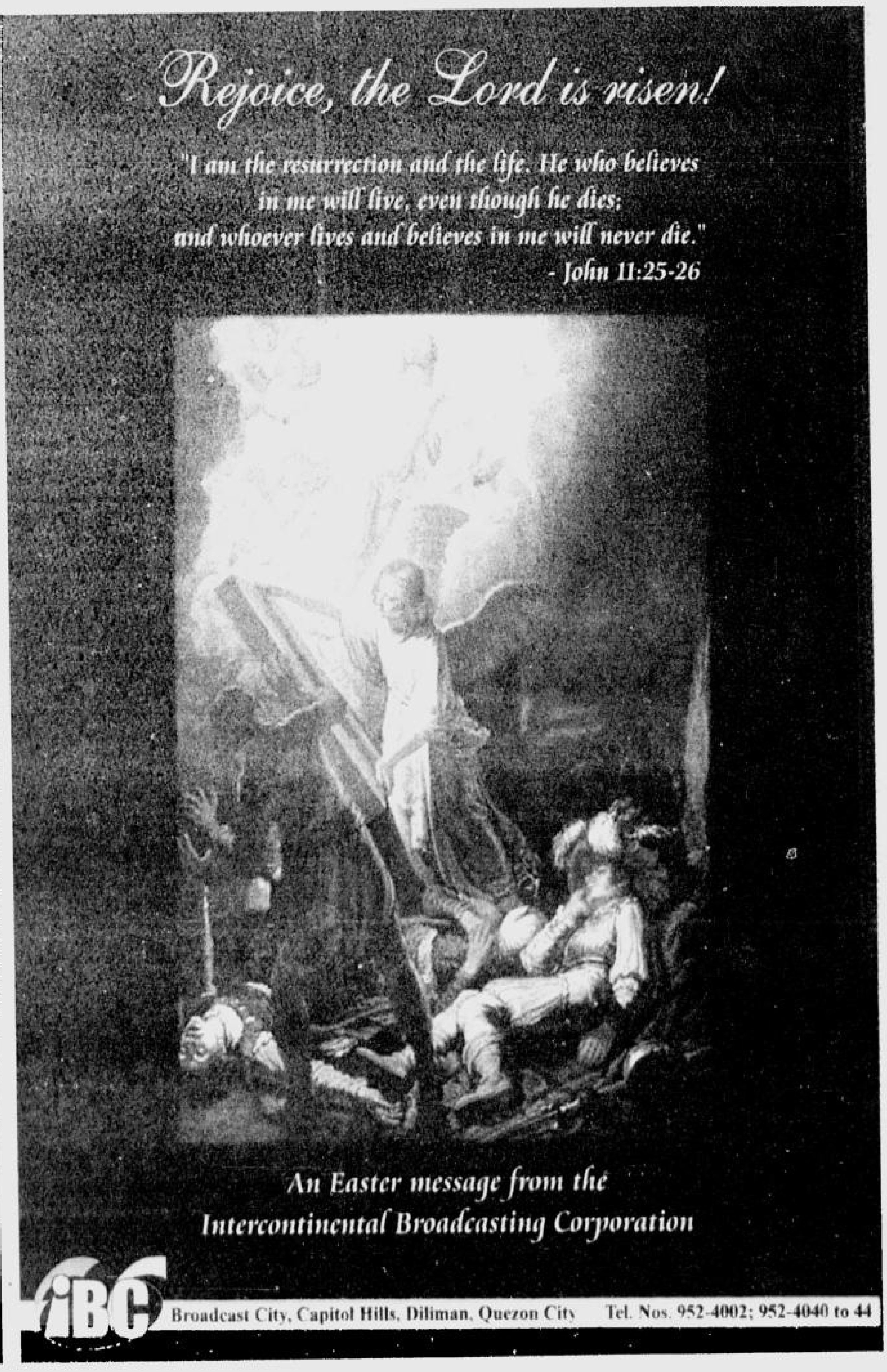
Rejoice, the Lord is risen!
"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."
- John 11:25-26
An Easter message from the Intercontinental Broadcasting Corporation
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Broadcast City, Capitol Hills, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 952-4002; 952-4040 to 44

RAMON Vibar applying finishing touches on Jesus Christ's image

Plumber carves business out of Christ statues

By Joyce Mejillano
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—While sculpture tides him over during the year, it is during Lent that this former plumber earns the most from his images of Jesus Christ and other characters involved in His sufferings and crucifixion.

Ramon Vibar, 48, has been engaged in this craft for almost 15 years. His products include images of various sizes like the Santo Niño, Virgin Mary, angels, and popular saints and he sells them to customers from as far as the United States and Australia.

"Most orders coming in are for images of saints and Christ, which I really love to work on," Vibar tells SundayBiz, saying he feels as if he's blessed every time he works on these images.

Early orders

Orders of sculptured images for this year's Lenten season started to pour in as early as October last year.

"As much as possible, they need to order six months before the occasion, so that I could already estimate the time I need to spend on each piece," he explains.

PLUMBER/ B10

Entrepreneurial COO always wanted to be an employee

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

MENARDO "Butch" G. Jimenez Jr. had always been a COO or child of the owner throughout his work life.

Son of the former head of GMA Network with the same name, Butch had always worked for ventures his family owned or firms he himself set up.

"My whole career I have always either ran my own business or was part of a family business so I was always a COO or SOB (son of the boss)," says the producer of the internationally acclaimed film, "Rizal."

"One of the dimensions of this is you have no understanding of how it is to be an employee with its varied disciplines and parameters," he says.

His opportunity came when PLDT CEO Manuel V. Pangilinan made him an offer "I couldn't understand."

"I was in Singapore when I got a call at 2 a.m. from Mr. Pangilinan and he asked if I would like to join PLDT," Jimenez recalls.

With the thought that he needed the perspective of an employee and that if he does become one it should be of someone with international caliber, such as Pangilinan (who heads the Hongkong-based First Pacific Group Ltd.), he accepted.

But Jimenez sought his dad's advice first considering Pangilinan, through PLDT, had wanted to acquire GMA. The older Menardo gave his blessings.

Butch's post is VP for Media and Strategic Communications where he is in charge of the company's image both internally and externally.

A year and a half into the job, Jimenez says it has been "a humbling experience."

"I am learning to be an employee. The main difference is that it is a bit more relaxed. Being an owner of a business, the buck stops with you. If you make a mistake, you can point your finger at somebody else and nobody will question that."

But not with being an employee. You take sole responsibility for your actions.

After his two-year contract with PLDT, he says "I will go back and chart my own path."

Jimenez says he has two dreams—one, which he already achieved in 1998, was to become a TOYM (Ten Outstanding Young Men) awardee.

The second, he will achieve this week when he addresses the graduating class of UP Diliman.

He becomes one of the youngest speakers of the graduating class and admits he was surprised at the invitation and wondered if it was his dad they wanted to invite.

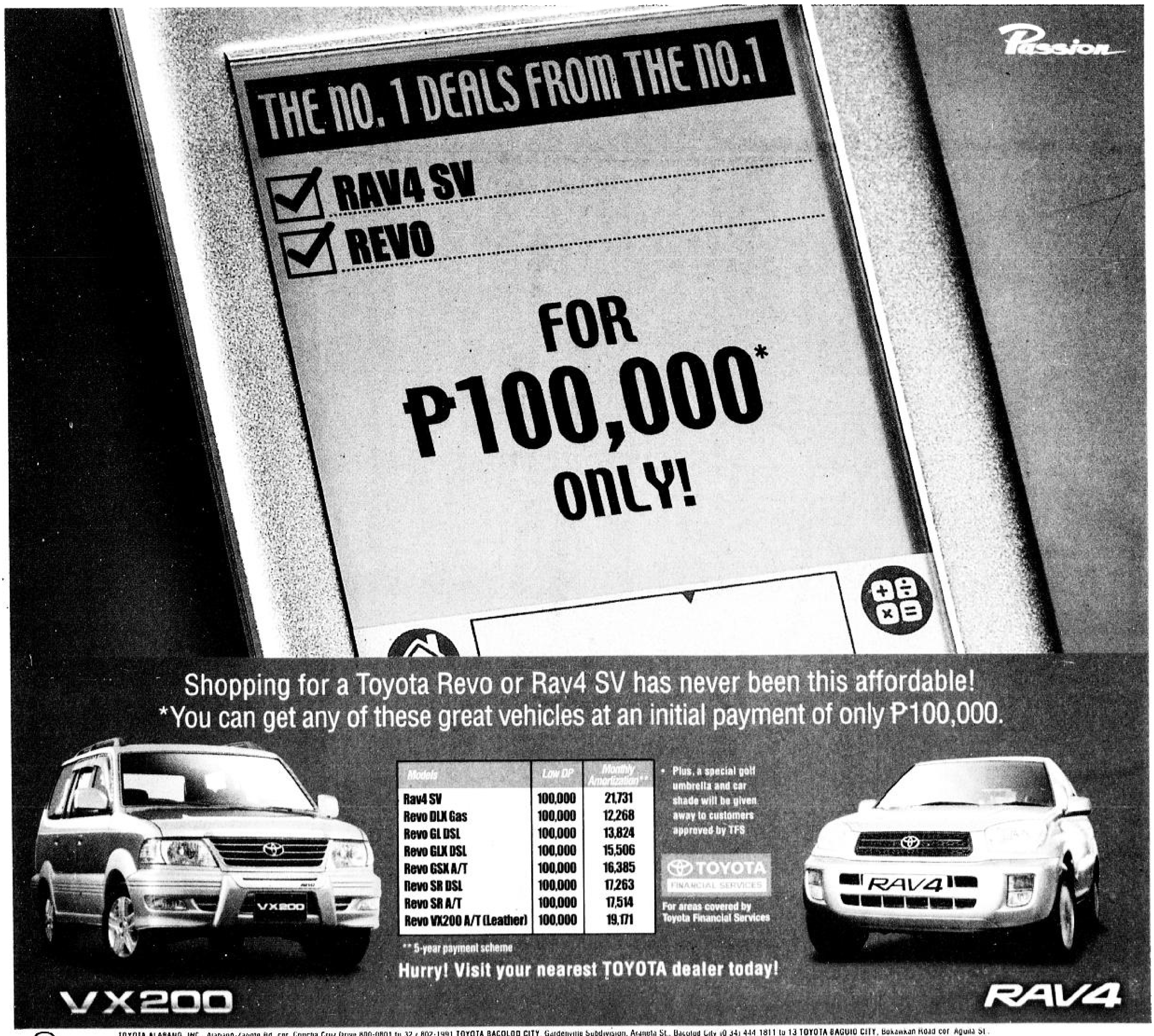
But the letter of UP Chancellor Emerlinda Roman was clear—UP wants "a younger achiever for a change, one our graduates can emulate and relate to."

Previous speakers include Chief Justice Hilario Davide and Sen. Edgardo Angara.

Butch says this is a dream because he had always wanted to work for the youth. From publishing a Christian magazine for the youth to being hands-on in helping students doing

ENTREPRENEURIAL/ B10

JIMENEZ with his family



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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

See how the Easter sun rises

A lake comes back from the murky dead, a rustic town stems creeping urban woes by reviving appreciation for its folk arts, not to say its National Artists, Balara gets a new liquid polish, the lowly jeep gets a second lease on life, church altars are blessed with the designs of yore and seriously ill kids fight the loneliness of sickness by spending a day of fun in the mall and having their wishes granted—these special stories of rebirth, revival and resurrection make up this Sunday's issue. Happy Easter!

ST. CARLOS V. FRANCISCO "FIESTA" 1946

Murals of Botong Francisco's art in Angono

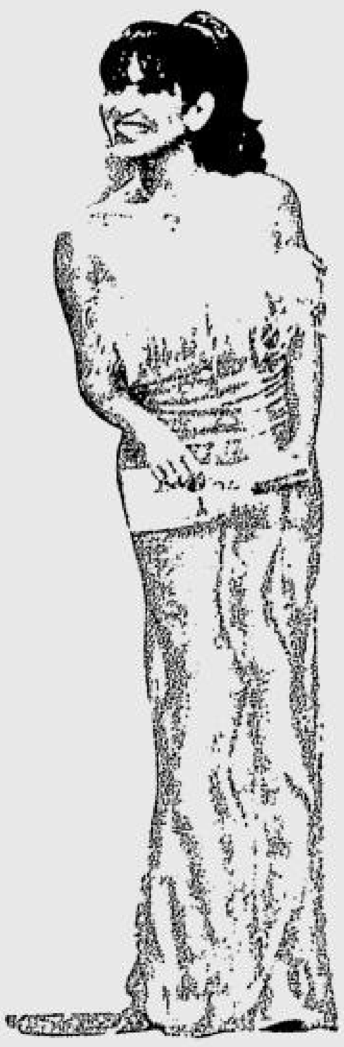
page H1

Romance of the army jeep

section J

Wishes do come true

section D



Lenten suffering at the Famas

page N1

Balara's new look

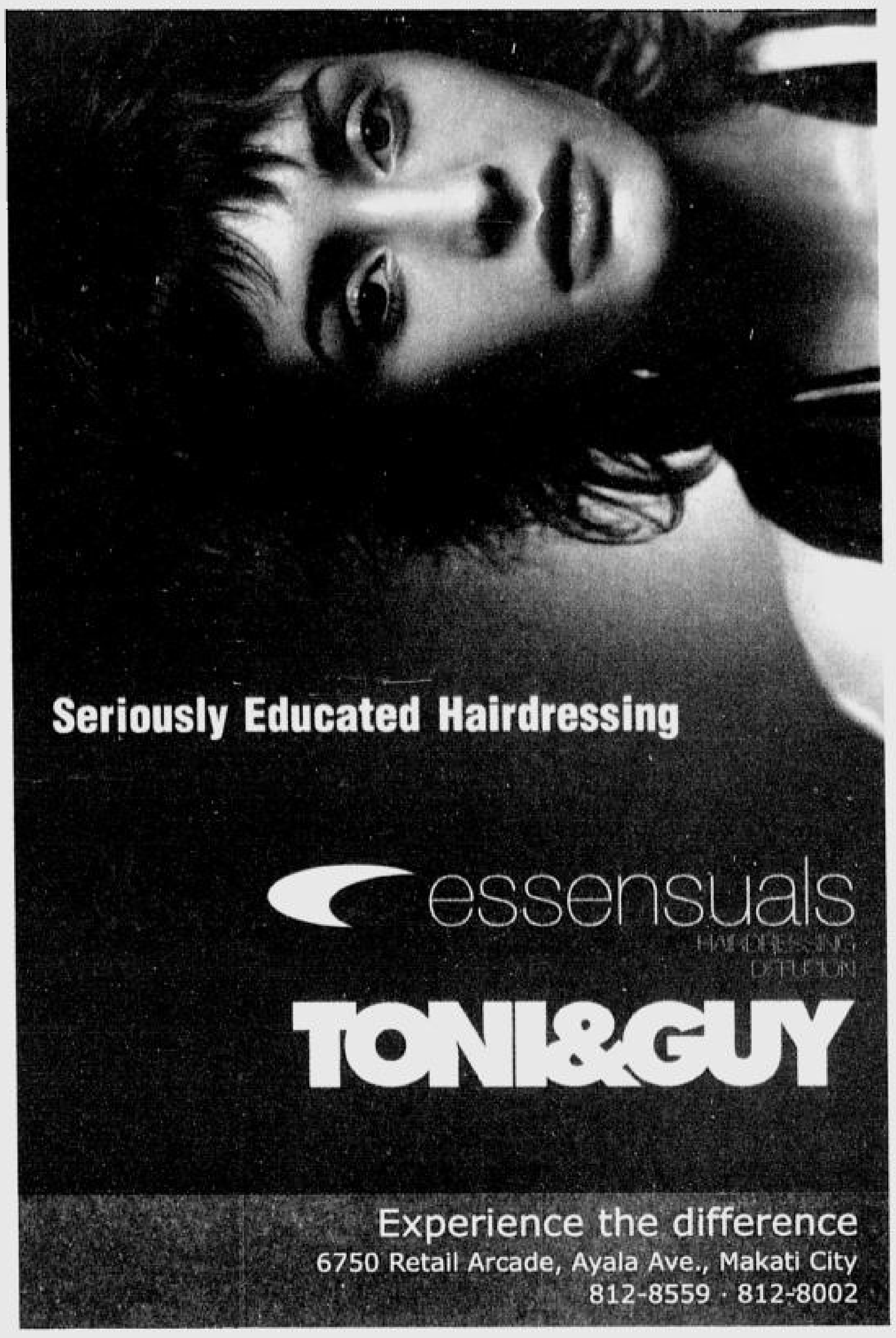
section I

Blas Ople's birthday celebration

page M1

Dream weddings

sections E&F



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Happy Easter
Happy Easter
Easter Brunch?

When the faith faces the rising East

By Tony S. Adriano
Contributor

EASTER, not Christmas, is the greatest feast in the Christian calendar. Easter represents the supreme act of Jesus who conquered death by his resurrection and redeemed the world from the bondage of sin with his sacred passion. Christmas has only upstaged Easter because of the gross commercialism that usually attends its celebration.

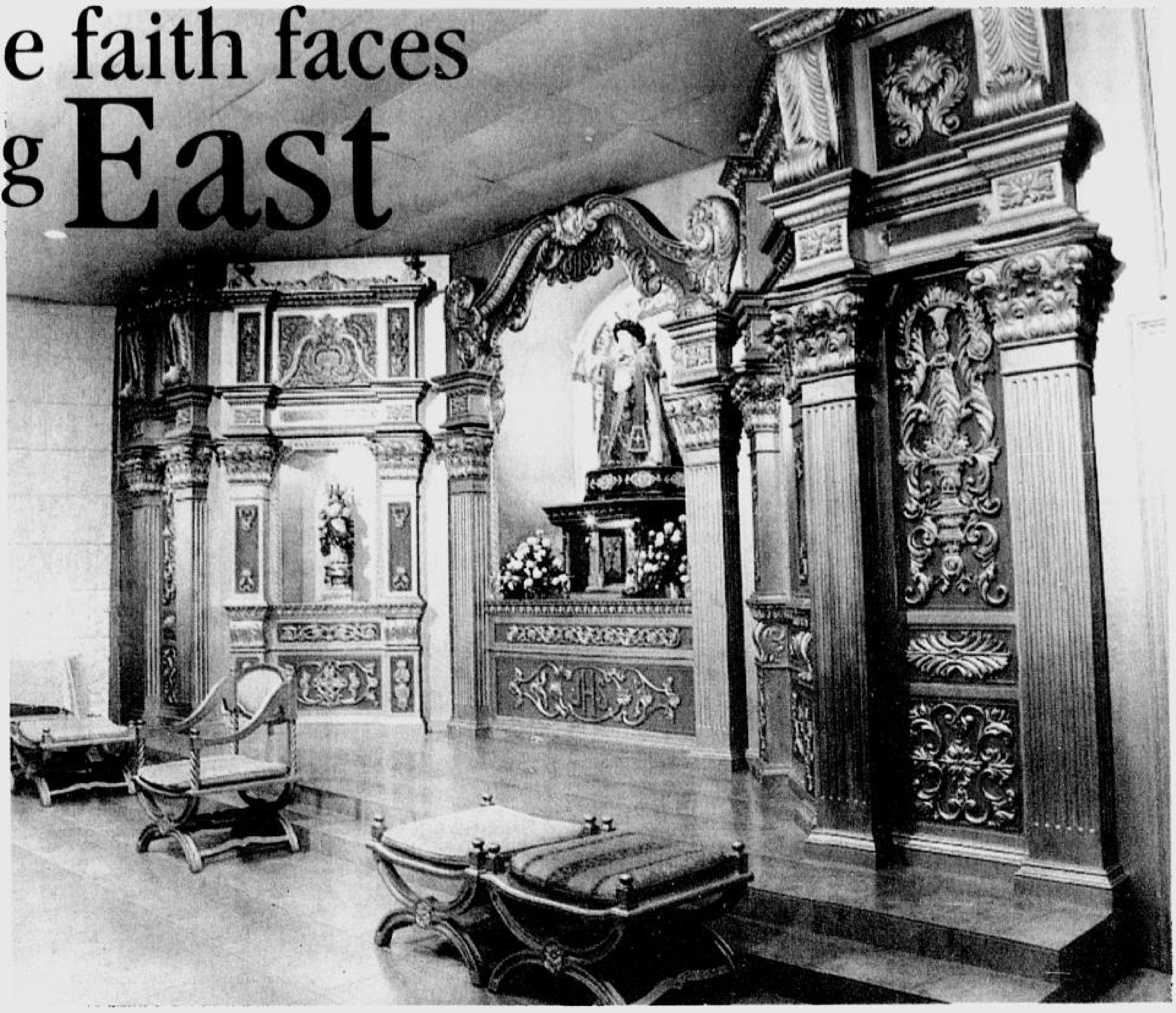
With Eastertide, the Roman Catholic Church begins a new season in its calendar. After the "darkness" of Lent, a new season of light begins.

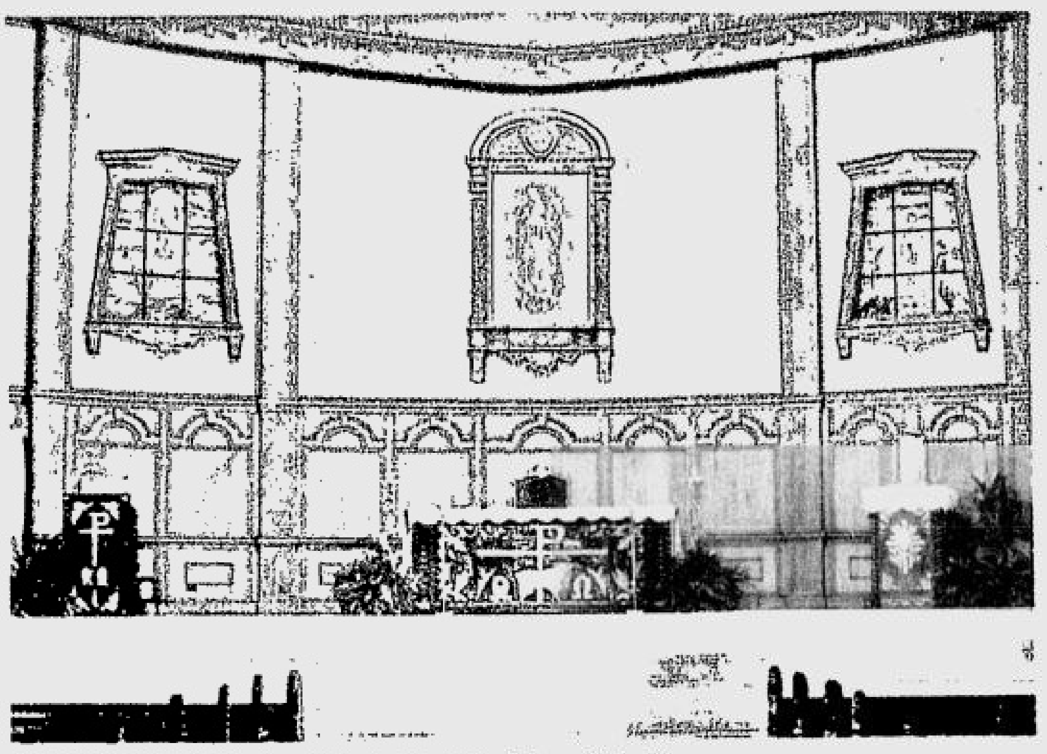
The altar of repose prominent in every church is brought down or "recycled" and transformed for the new rites of Easter.

Churches seem to outdo one another in performing rituals. But just the same, the center of attention remains the worship of the Eucharist as the physical and true presence of Christ in the sacrament.

In Catholic dogma, Christ is truly and really present body and soul in the appearance of the frail host.

The center of devotion at this time is the tabernacle. A survey of several churches designed by leading sacred art designer Tony S. Adriano shows this.


CONGREGACION Chapel of the Most Holy Name of the Child Jesus-Quezon City


ARCHDIOCESAN Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe-Makati

Parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Since the revered icon, like the image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, is a painting, minimal decorations have been accorded the image. A simple frame borders the replica of the original tilma in Guadalupe. Done in simple empire style with minimal gilding, the frame centers the eye on the image itself with a minimum of distractions.

Stained glass windows flank the image in a trapezoidal frame depicting the first and fourth apparitions of the Virgin to Juan Diego. The whole ensemble reflects the entire history of the apparition.

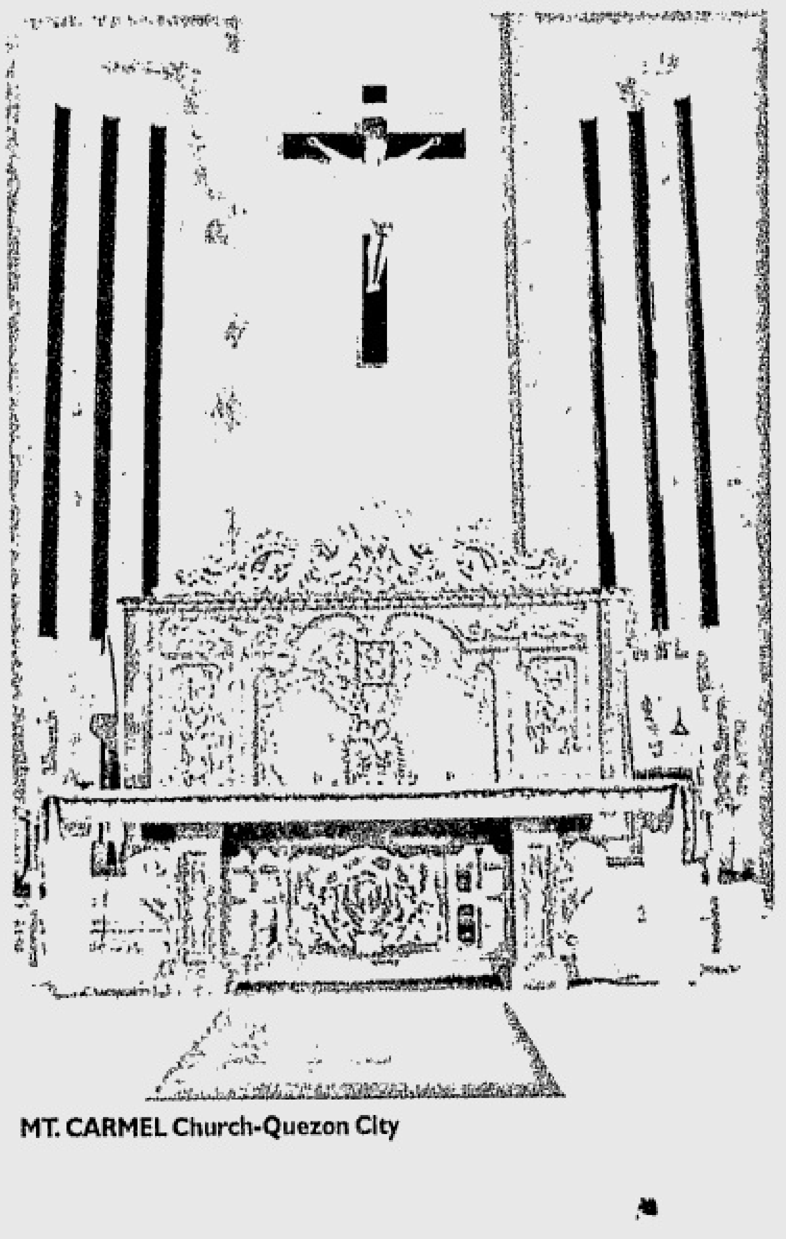
Parish Church of San Rafael

Done in Low Baroque style, the main *retablo* shows a triangular pediment with a central arch where the crucified Christ is majestically installed. It is flanked by two reliefs where the Angel Raphael is depicted based on two biblical scenes.

Two ledge-side altars house the image of the Sacred Heart and Immaculate Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Farther into the main altar are two free-standing altars that house St. Raphael and the Blessed Virgin. The design is unified into one coherent whole by the altar table, the lectern,

WHEN/ C3


MT. CARMEL Church-Quezon City

More and more church altars are being built in the grand old style, signaling a renaissance in sacred art

The Experts Speak Up!

Raymond G. Belmonte, MD, FPSO-HNS
Chairman -- Department of Ear, Nose and Throat, Head and Neck Surgery
St. Martin de Porres Charity Hospital
Consultant -- St. Luke's Medical Center;
University of Santo Tomas Hospital;
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital; The Medical City;
Delos Santos Medical Center

Throat troubles and woes

Be acquainted with the common problems of the throat

The throat serves a wide range of functions vital to our existence -- like regulating air and food passage, and forming our speech faculties. Thus, discomforts and problems in the throat can prevent us from working productively. Knowing these problems can help us give our throat the attention and the care it needs.

Laryngitis / Hoarseness of Voice

Laryngitis is defined as an inflammation of the larynx or the voice box. This common condition is usually characterized by hoarseness of one's voice. What usually happens is that the vocal cords are swollen. Common causes include infectious agents such as bacteria or viruses, exposure to irritants such as smoke, misuse of the voice, and even hyperacidity of the stomach to some extent. Because of the varied causes, fever may or may not be present.

Voice rest proves to be a good treatment for laryngitis, as antibiotics are usually only indicated for bacterial types of laryngitis. Humidifiers, decongestants, and analgesics may provide temporary relief from pain and scratchiness of the throat. However, if hoarseness of the voice persists for more than a week, appears to be worsening, or is accompanied with difficulty of breathing, it is best to see your ENT doctor so that he can have an actual "look" at your vocal cords.

Tonsillitis

The tonsils are the lymph tissues located at the back and sides of the mouth. They collect and filter the bacteria and virus which cause respiratory infections. When overloaded by infection, they become swollen and inflamed, giving way to tonsillitis.

Tonsillitis is characterized by difficulty in swallowing and enlarged, reddened tonsils, which may occasionally have white spots on them. Fever, chills, headache, and earache may also be present.

Tonsillitis is common and recurring, particularly in children between four to seven years old. However, they may also occur throughout late childhood and adulthood.

Regular gargling of antiseptic mouthwash can help in preventing tonsillitis. Contact with people experiencing upper respiratory problems should also be avoided.

It is important to consult a doctor to determine whether the cause of tonsillitis is bacterial or viral. Bacterial infection can be treated by antibiotics which inhibit the spread of infection that can cause complications.

To treat tonsillitis, it is important to give the body time to heal itself through rest. Fluids and oral antiseptics help ease the pain and irritation. Analgesics may be used to lower fever and reduce pain.

Tonsillectomy, or the surgical removal of the tonsils, may be necessary in some cases. Severe and frequent tonsillitis in children may result to fatigue, poor weight gain, frequent ear infection, difficulty in breathing, and swallowing. Some would also lead to more serious heart and kidney problems.

Good health starts with proper information. Knowing the possible problems and being familiar with their causes and characteristics are the first steps you can take in caring for your throat.

We'd like to hear from you!

Text us your answers to the following questions at 0917-8PFIZER (0917-8734937) or 0918-9PFIZER (0918-9734937) and get a chance to win a Pfizer gift pack!

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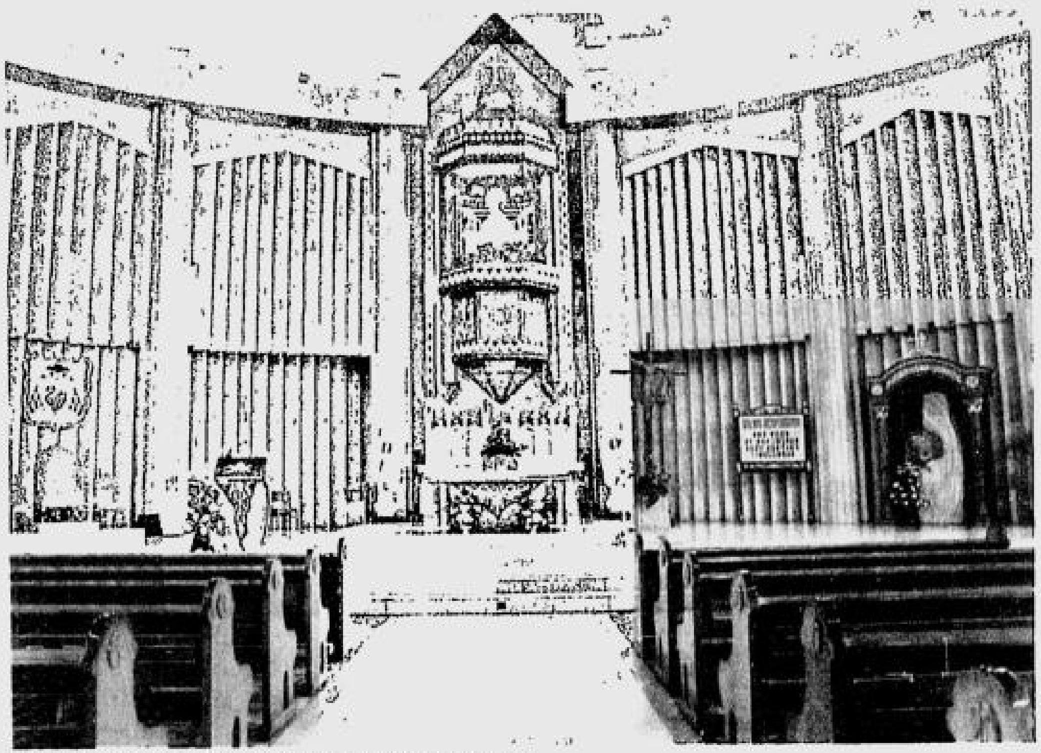
Should you have any questions about ENT or comments regarding this column, please email to Pfizer ENT (bactidol@pfizer.com). You can also text 0917-8PFIZER (0917-8734937) or 0918-9PFIZER (0918-9734937) and type in PFI (space), ENT (space), your question or comment.

PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY HEAD AND NECK SURGERY 1956

A health update from the throat care experts, PSO-HNS and Bactidol.

Hexetidine Bactidol

SANCTUARIO de San Jose-Greenhills, San Juan



OUR LADY of Peace and Good Voyage-Antipolo

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to the One who
drew so near to us.

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When the faith faces the rising East

From page C2

and the ambo, where the celebration of the Eucharist is held.

Minimal gilding does not distract the attention of the viewer, but enhances the feeling of majesty in this place of worship.

Villa San Miguel (The Archbishop's Palace)

Although considered the exclusive enclave of the country's foremost prelate, the Archbishop's chapel is done in the elegant empire style.

The Archbishop's Chair is backdropped by solid bronze panels with 24K gold leaf topped by a half beldachin showing cherubs with crossed wings and the Archbishop's heraldic shield.

The altar and lectern are unified by the base done in Solomonic pillars with hand-carved floral wreaths and traditional eucharistic symbols such as the grape and wheat, symbolizing the holy bread and wine.

The entire ensemble is unified by ivory-colored panels with square pillars embellished in hand-carved details and gilding. The whole design is not overpowering. The use of empire-style furnishing however imbues the place with majesty and power.

National Shrine of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage

The centuries-old image of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage, more popularly known as the Virgin of Antipolo, was before reputed one of the richest images in the Philippines in terms of regalia. But with the Filipino-American war, the original Jesuit-built church was burned down and no one knows where the image's regalia went.

A popular destination during the Marian month of May, the shrine is a place of pilgrimage for devotees seeking favors or giving thanks for favors granted.

The design at present is simple. It is so designed to show the image of the Virgin more prominently to her devotees.

Where once the image was housed in a small frame, showing only the front, the new design now enthrones the Virgin in an octagonal frame with Baroque style details richly gilded.

The triangular pediment is topped by a globe with an open crown surmounted by a cross.

The Virgin is housed in a plate glass with mirror backing, which provides an ingenious manner in which the whole image can be seen around. Lighting shows the image in all its resplendent glory befitting the Queen of Heaven.

Sanctuario de San Jose Parish

A central trapezoid frame encloses the main altar of adoration: the tabernacle. The design focuses the eye on the center of the eucharistic celebration. Done in a mixture of empire and rococo styles the entire altar is

WHEN/ C5

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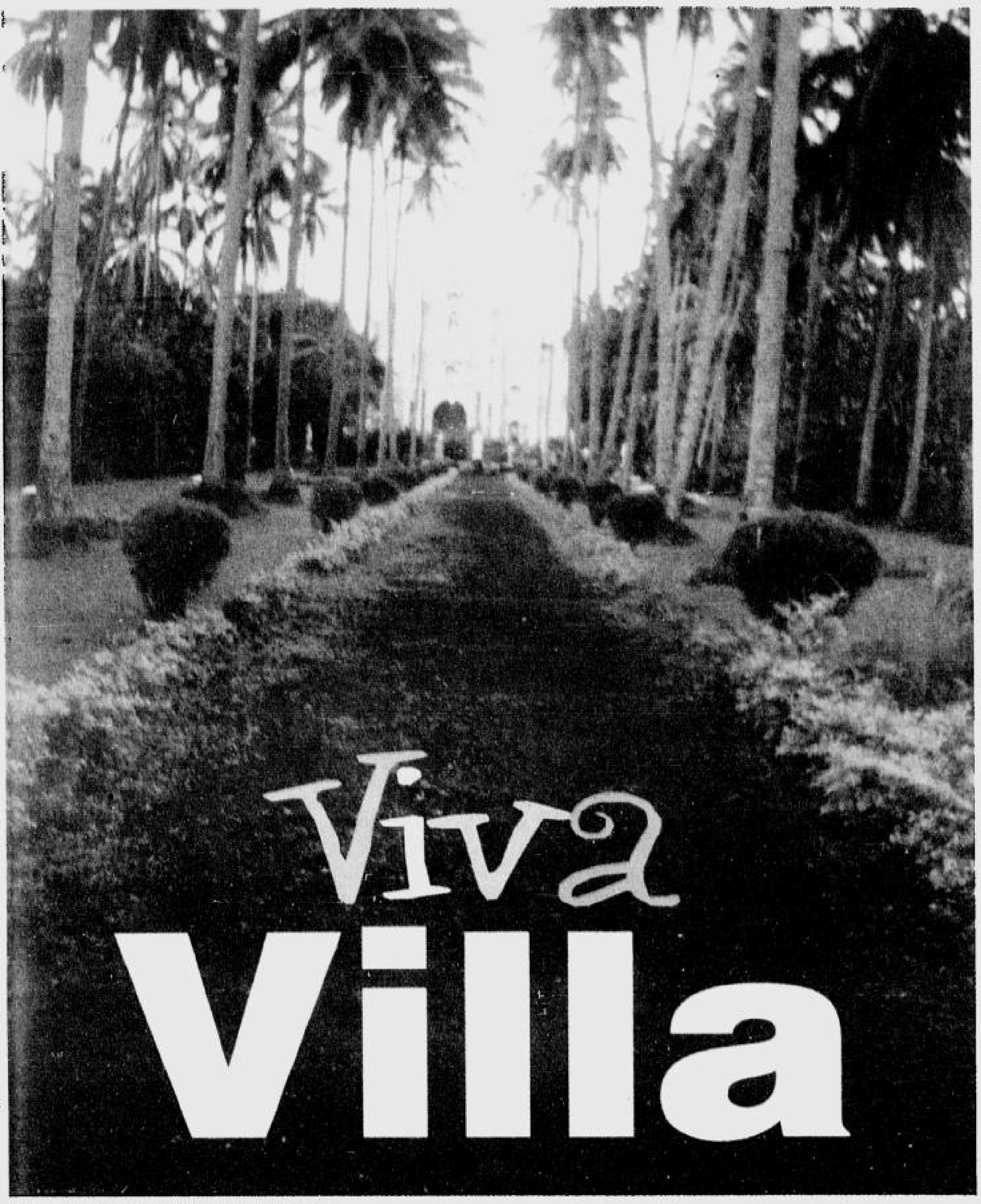
TRAVEL

Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**



Viva Villa

TREES and vegetation line the long road.

Text and photos
by Sharon Wendy A. Robas

On the lookout for a novelty? Here's a cool deal for people whose idea of a day tour is roaming the malls

IT WAS a sunny morning when we headed to San Pablo City in Laguna to try the day-tour package of Villa Escudero.

We'd been told that the package included a museum tour, a buffet lunch beside a waterfall, and use of the Villa's recreational facilities. Well, we thought, that would be more than enough action for a day, and a welcome respite for us whose idea of a day tour then was roaming the malls until our legs and wallets ached or watching movies until our eyes blurred.

It took two-and-a-half hours to get to the Villa by bus from Manila. Actually, we missed the spot where we were supposed to get off, and had to take another bus going back. Ah, the thrill of traveling!

At the reception hall, women in patadyong (all Villa employees, male or female, are in native wear) served us the "welcome drink"—a cold and refreshing *sago't gulaman* that quenched our thirst but not our excitement.

It being a day tour, I was anxious to get started. So we went through an orientation, a woman handed us our ticket stubs, and on we went to the museum.

The Villa's sprawling lawns in themselves looked very much like a museum. A tank, a fighter plane and cannons are clustered in one area, and all over the place are statues, some of which are "seated" on benches—all so life-like they seem real. And then there's the vast plantation with countless coconut trees and abundant vegetation.

A huge Spanish-era church, which I had planned to visit before proceeding to the museum, caught my attention. It turned out to be the museum itself!

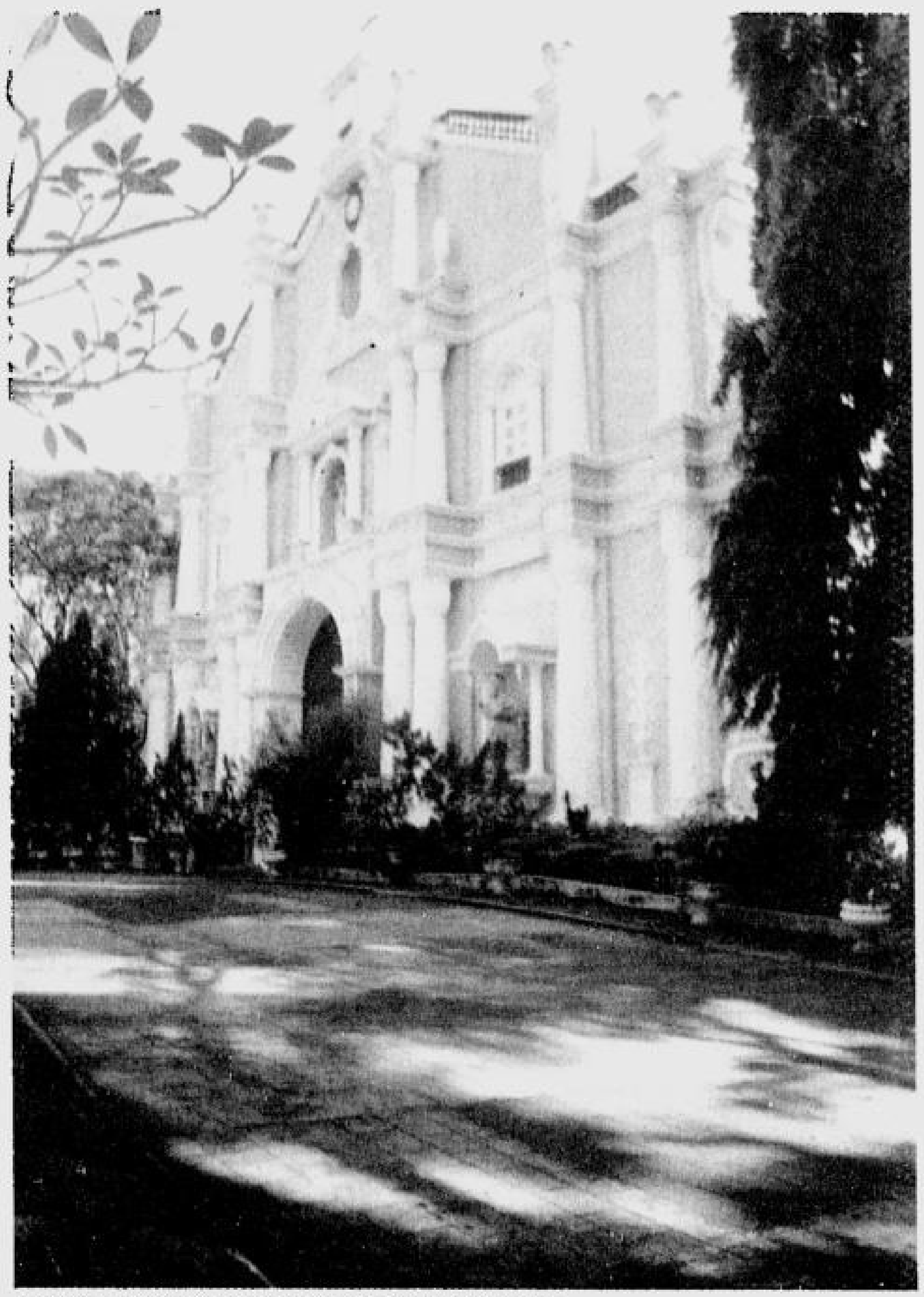
A woman led the way as we entered. It was a bit dark and all we could see was a huge tableau. When the lights were switched on, I felt a little creepy when countless *santos* crowded my vision.

The interior is very much like a church minus the pews. An ornate altar is at the center, and *santos* in various sizes at the center aisle. Life-size ones stand on gilded *carrozas* (used, I later learned, during Holy Week processions in San Pablo).

Cameras are not allowed inside, but the astounding sight remains vivid in my mind as clear as a photograph.

One item that fascinated me was the New Testament forming the picture of Jesus surrounded by angels. At first glance it appeared like an ordinary photograph, but with the help of the magnifying glass hanging readily beside the frame, I saw that indeed the image is composed of words of the New Testament.

ON PLACID Lake Labasin, bamboo rafts await.



BUT the church at the end of the road is a museum.

The museum offers, aside from religious artifacts, a wide array of collections from Philippine wildlife, dioramas, jars and ceramics of varying sizes from different eras, antique furniture and other Filipiniana, currency bills and coins, and other notable items from the Philippines and around the world.

Outside, touring the grounds is made easy by carabao-drawn carts. We were even pampered with a serenade of Philippine love songs by Villa singers aboard the cart.

Cultural shows are held every Friday and weekends at the Coconut Pavilion. But it was a weekday on the day we visited, so we missed that.

The three swimming pools—one for children, one with a depth of four feet and another 5 feet, and with jacuzzi—were truly tempting, but we decided to take a splash after lunch.

From there we walked toward the Wedding Center, where a cluster of pavilions aptly named Suyuan (courtship), Bukluran (bonding) and Pag-ibig (love) make for an ideal setting for romantic, if bucolic, nuptials.

It was lunchtime when we reached Labasin Falls, where the sumptuous buffet was served. The sight and sound of the waterfalls were perfect complement to the spread—hot *sopas* (soup), *sitaw* and *kalabasa* in coconut milk, beef *caldereta* and other native cuisine. Most of the tables were arranged directly over the stream, so that we could feel the cool waters flowing over our feet as we partook of the feast.

Later, we had fun swimming because we had the whole pool almost to ourselves.

Beside the swimming area is Lake Labasin, on which guests may go bamboo rafting. I considered trying it out (it's part of the day-tour package), but the warning signs put me off. The lake is 30 feet deep (Gulp!), those who can't swim are advised not to go (Help! Help!), and only two persons are allowed on one bamboo raft.

In the end I decided: "No way!"

Not even the assurance of Manong, a member of the Villa staff, that it's safe or my boyfriend's rowing expertise could make me change my mind . . . until a group of high school students on excursion came, saw, and quickly conquered the serene lake.

It must have been pride. I instantly changed my mind and before I knew it, Manong was handing me a life jacket. I felt my heart beating fast as I walked toward the bamboo raft. I even asked my rafting buddy if he would truly go after me if I fell off.

GUITARMAN revs up for a serenade.

Does that sound over-dramatic? That's how tense I felt.

But I went ahead, anyway. I paddled, shrieking at the slightest movement of the bamboo raft, until I regained control of myself and got down to enjoying the picturesque surroundings. It was an experience.

As we made our way toward the shore I managed to signal to someone to take our picture. That was one "Kodak moment" I didn't want to miss!

For guests who prefer other activities, there are facilities available: a basketball court, a karaoke hall, *nipa* huts for a day, and cottages for overnight use.

Our last stop was the chapel, a real one this time. The Chapel of the Ascension, located within the "village" where most of the Villa workers live, is a favorite site for many celebrity weddings (for example, that of show biz couple Lorna Tolentino and Rudy Fernandez).

I was briefly treated to an amusing sight: a member of the chapel staff, clad in colorful native dress, dusting off the pews.

It was almost 6 p.m. when we left Villa Escudero, and the ride home seemed to be a little faster, a little shorter, than what we had that morning.

But it was not too short for a nap and quite long enough for us to reminisce on the fun-filled time we spent in just one place, in just one day.

For inquiries, call Villa Escudero's Manila office at 521-0830 or 523-2944.

TRAVELBRIEFS

Donations for kids

TRAVELERS on Emirates flights may now donate their loose change to help needy children worldwide.

Courtesy of the Emirates Airline Foundation, especially designed donation envelopes are now placed in seat pockets on every flight for passengers to use and hand to cabin crew for safe deposit on arrival back in Dubai.

The foundation, a non-profit charity organization that aims to improve the lives of disadvantaged children around the world, is licensed by the Dubai Department of Economic Development. Funds will be directed to key areas of children's needs such as food, medicines, housing and education, and regularly audited.

A spokesperson for the committee said: "The spare foreign currency that we bring back from a trip usually ends up in the back of a drawer. This leftover cash can make an enormous difference to a needy child, if donated to our foundation to help fund projects.

"We would like to thank customers in advance for their caring contributions. We will keep them updated on the projects selected for funding, and on the children whom they have helped give a better opportunity in life."

Donors may keep track of the foundation's projects by logging on to www.emiratesairlinefoundation.org.

Incentive trip

TUPPERWARE Philippines recently treated its sales force to a 4-day, all-expense-paid trip to Bangkok as part of its incentive program.

The sales force, which contributed to the company's sustained growth in the past year, was accompanied by Tupperware president and managing director Greg S. Voyik, national sales director Yvette Navarro and promo and events director Eins Mutuc.

Tupperware said in a media release that the majority of its sales force were homemakers working part-time but normally earning the equivalent of a bank executive's monthly income.

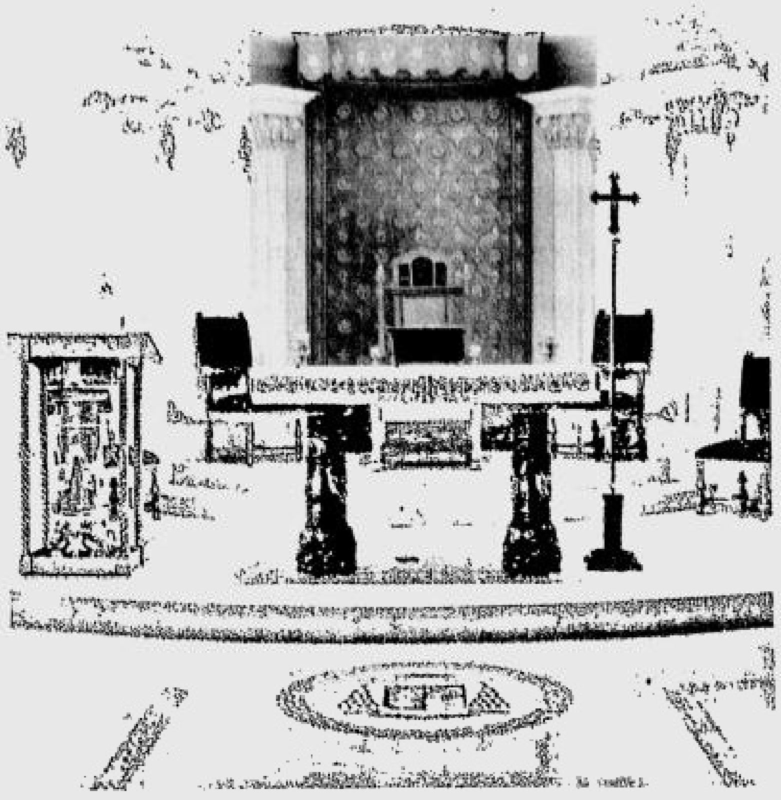
Diving awards

THE PHILIPPINES was judged third best diving area in the world at the recent Marine Diving Fair in Tokyo.

Five dive operators in the Philippines were chosen favorites overseas, with Blue Coral placing 3rd, Pacific Cebu Divers 7th, Emerald Green Diving Center 13th, Aquarius Divers 15th and Marine Village Dive House 18th.

Four Philippine diving resort hotels also made it to the top 20 in the world: Pacific Cebu Resort at 5th, Bohol Tropics Resort at 7th, Buyong Beach Resort at 11th and White Sands Beach resort at 14th.

Organized by the Marine Art Center Co. Ltd., the fair served as a gathering of the world's best in the diving industry.



VILLA San Miguel Chapel-Mandaluyong

When the faith faces the rising East

From page C3

unified by the intricate scrollwork framing the tabernacle. Two ledges bear the images of the Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph, the parish's patron.

The altar table and lectern are intricately carved in a similar pattern giving the design a unified impact.

The Violago Chapel

The Violago Chapel houses the original revered image of the Santissimo Nombre del Niño Jesus. This is the "motherhouse" of the popular Congregacion, an association of devotees to the popular image of the Santo Niño.

The Santo Niño cult has a very large following. The cult traces its origins to the cult of the Holy infant Jesus of Prague.

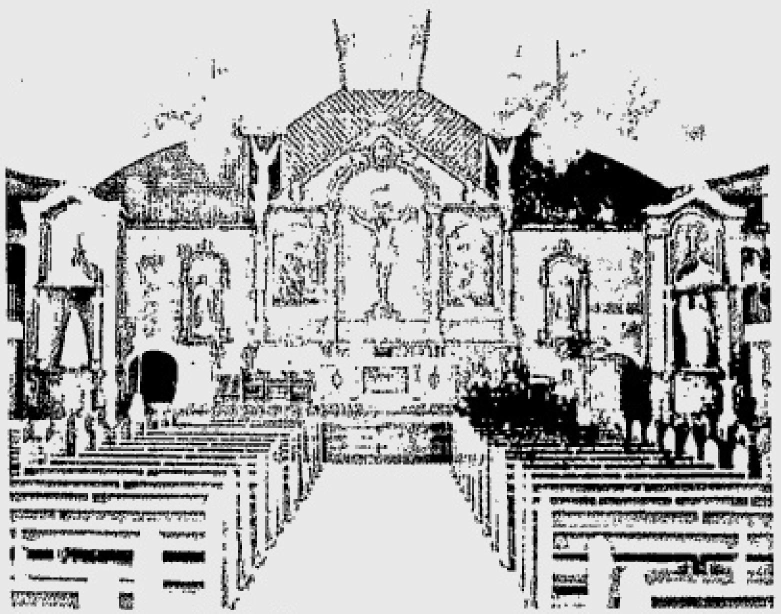
The chapel is done in High Baroque. Squared Corinthian columns support the whole structure with carving details on panels with intricate scrollwork and floral design.

The image of the Sto Niño is enthroned in the central niche.

A dramatic departure from all the other designs is the liberal use of gold leaf in the entire structure and the background done in dramatic burgundy.

The whole design imparts majesty and regal splendor befitting the Child King!

This Easter, it is worthwhile to visit churches not only as an act of piety but also a chance to study the seeming resurgence of sacred design, which brings back the majesty and splendor of the churches in the grand old style we have always known.



SAN RAPHAEL Parish-Navotas

Socio-civic group marks 52nd year

BATIKAN Club celebrates its 52nd anniversary with a grand ball on April 26 at Don Antonio Luancing Memorial Plaza in Rosario, Batangas.

Rosario town's oldest existing socio-civic organization celebrates another year of service to its constituents. Aside from hosting annual balls in time for the town fiesta, the Batikan Club is also active in its scholarship programs and medical missions.

Past and present members of the Batikan Club are invited to attend this homecoming party with music provided by Lady Valerie and her orchestra.

To be crowned Miss Batikan 2003 is Cindy Dimaculangan, a Psychology graduate from Miriam College. She will be escorted by Leonardo Dimaculangan Jr., a law student at Ateneo. This year's guest speaker is Batangas Rep. Oscar Gozos.

Batikan Club former presidents (front row, from left) CSP Jovencito Zuno, 2003 president Leonardo Dimaculangan, Nestor Cuartero and Florencio Ilagan; (back row, from left) Felipe Marquez, Rudy Villar, Cesar Bandonillo, Fortunato Corachea, Canuto Mindanao, Benigno Gozos and Teodoro Jareno.

Tool mania set 1
KR700REK
13mm Variable Speed Reversing Hammer Drill with kitbox
Upgrade to our top-of-the-line Black & Decker 13mm VSR Hammer Drill. This hammer drill has a Vibrator Dampener – less stress when drilling into concrete!
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Tool mania set 2
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CD431K
10mm Variable Speed Reversing Drill/Driver
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Includes!
B&D Drill Holster
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Tool mania set 4
KR500 + CD300
The Beginner's Basic Pack
10mm Single Speed Hammer Drill plus Single Speed Jigsaw
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The KR500 Single Speed Hammer Drill comes with a 5-piece High Speed Steel Drill bits set.
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Tool Mania price: 3,995
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Black & Decker Tool Mania!
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Tool mania set 5
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Care for your car the Black & Decker way. Equip yourself with this powerful duo!
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Tool mania set 6
P1181
10mm Variable Speed Reversing Drill
This powerful 350W drill is for all purpose drilling and screwdriving. Every handyman's economical investment.
Includes!
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- 8-piece Screwdriving and Drilling Set (50608)
For Professional Applications
Tool Mania price: 2,495
REG: 2,999.75

Tool mania set 7
KG15
100mm Small Angle Grinder
Grind away rust, cut bolt heads and do renovation tasks with ease with the Black & Decker small angle grinder. Highly efficient 620W motor provides top performance.
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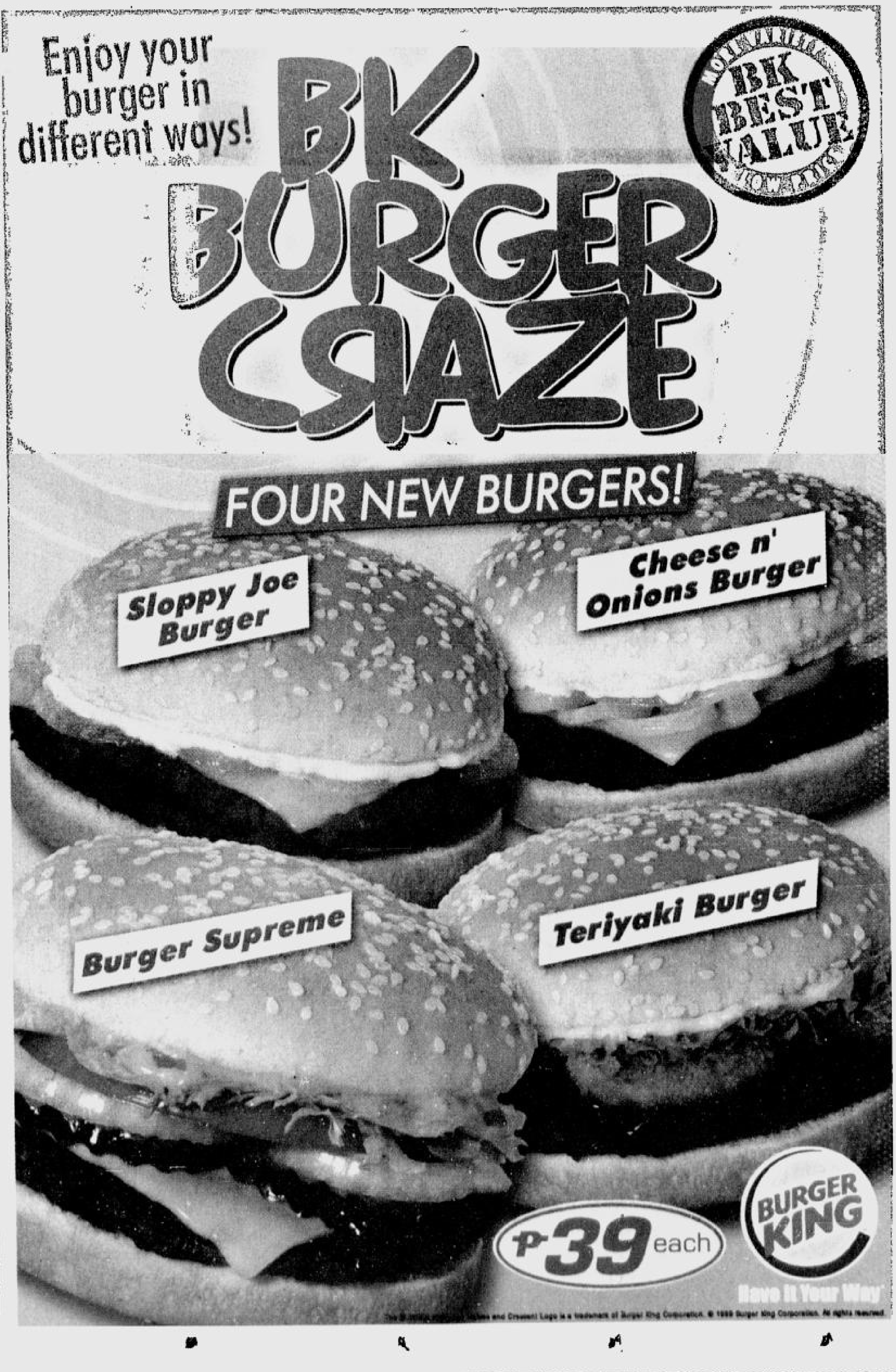
Promo period: April 1, 2003 to June 30, 2003 Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1154 Series of 2003 AVAILABLE IN SELECTED HARDWARE STORES NATIONWIDE



Easter egg hunts, brunch and special promos

THE ROBINSONS Malls is holding "EasterEggscapades" at 1 p.m. today. It will feature a kiddie show with games and prizes. Registration will be held at the activity area before the show. Call 632-7672 or 633-7641-90 local 175 or 176.

THE SULO Hotel in Quezon City offers the "Summer Get-away" promo until May 4. A standard/moderate room is available at P1,500 net and a de luxe room at P2,000 net. Local residents and *balikbayans* may avail of the 20-percent-off Kababayan rate on all types of guest rooms, inclusive of breakfast, and 30-percent-off Maharlikard rate on published rates for loyal patrons. Join the Easter egg and bunny hunts today after the Easter Mass at 9 a.m. officiated by Fr. Rolando Clarin of the Claretian Missionary Fathers, at the hotel's garden. Two hundred eggs with corresponding prizes have to be found. A surprise gift awaits a group or family with the most number of tickets. The Sulo Hotel is on Matalino Road, Diliman Civic Center. Call 924-5051 to 71.

EDSA Shangri-La Manila holds Circus! Circus! Easter Sunday Fair at the Isla Ballroom today. Activities include egg hunting, egg and face painting, video games, movies and more. Illusionist and ventriloquist Lou Hilario spices up the fair with magic tricks and a parrot act. The whole family also enjoys the *merienda* buffet of spaghetti, fried chicken, hotdogs, ice cream, popcorn, and cotton candy, to name a few. Plus, the chance to bring home give-aways, loot bags, and raffle prizes. The fair is from 9 a.m.-12 nn or 1-4 p.m.

THE MANILA Midtown Hotel (MMH) presents a theatrical show featuring Bible-related stories 10 a.m.-12 nn today at the Intramuros Ballroom. An Easter egg hunt follows. MMH's Easter room promo for local residents ends today. Standard rooms are available at P2,200 net. Call 526-7001 local 6881 or 6440.

MANILA Galleria Suites presents its Easter Egg Hunt, "The Hunting Party," at 10 a.m. today at the Manansala Hall. Come as your favorite animal and get a chance to win the Best Costume prize. The hunt will feature an Exotic Bird and Reptile Show, a dancing poodle in the Dog and Monkey show, a puppet show and face painting. A 10-percent discount is given for a purchase of eight tickets in a single transaction. Call 633-7111 local 7410.

MANDARIN Oriental Manila presents today The Big Easter Circus starting with a Mass in the Mahogany room at 9 a.m. Favorite circus characters—jugglers, clowns, magicians, stilt walkers, acrobats and mime artists—will perform afterwards at the ballroom. Besides the traditional Easter egg hunt, other activities include tattooing and face painting, treasure hunting, kiddie fashion show and Beyblade. Room packages are offered to local residents starting at P2,800+ for a superior room, inclusive of American breakfast at The Captain's Bar for two persons, and one egg hunt pass if booked April 19-20. Discounted rates are valid until April 30. Call 750-8888 local 2305/2306.

TROPICANA Apartment Hotel's special Easter room rates are available only until today. Special treats await kids.

Guests staying in a two-bedroom apartment for P6,600 net will enjoy four days and three nights accommodation for four adults and two kids, Easter basket of goodies for the kids, breakfast for four adults, and complimentary use of health and fitness facilities. Guests availing of the one-bedroom suite package at P3,850 net will enjoy four days and three nights accommodation for two adults and two kids, Easter basket of goodies for the kids, breakfast for two adults, and complimentary use of health and fitness facilities. Tropicana Apartment Hotel is at 1630 Luis Ma. Guerrero St., Malate, Manila. Call 525-5555 or fax 525-5577.

HOLIDAY Inn Resort Clark Field Pampanga's Easter Hopping Inn Package is available until today, Easter Sunday. Rates are P2,800+ for an overnight stay in a standard room, P3,800+ in a junior suite and P6,100+ for a holiday villa. Two children can stay with their parents for free in a standard room or junior suite and four children in a holiday villa.

Package includes complimentary use of selected resort facilities. Easter and Kiddie Fair activities include theater presentations of "The Lion King" and "The Prince of Egypt," film showings, kiddie shows and Easter egg hunt, among others. Call (02) 845-1888 or (045) 599-8000 or visit the Holiday Inn Resort Clark Field on Mimosa Drive, Mimosa Leisure Estate, Clark Field, Pampanga.

THE WESTIN Philippine Plaza will give tickets to an Easter party at the Westin's Transparent Garden Tent when you avail of the Easter Brunch at Café Plaza. In cooperation with M&Ms chocolates, there will be a whole day of fun activities 9 a.m.-4 p.m. with egg hunts, Timezone kiddie rides and arcade games, Mad Science show, inflatable games such as Velcro Wall, Bouncing Castle, and fabulous prizes. The Easter Brunch Buffet is priced at P925+ for adults and P500+ for kids 6 to 12 years old. Call 551-5555 local 1529.

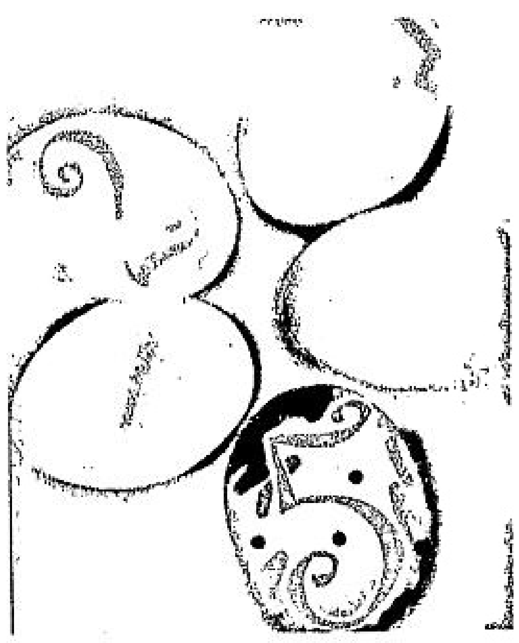
THE PAN Pacific Manila celebrates its 5th anniversary until May 31 with special room rates and packages are available. Guests who check in during this period can join a raffle for a chance to win a trip to Cebu via Philippine Airlines and accommodation at the Plantation Bay Resort and Spa. An Easter egg hunt will be held today at the poolside. Call 536-0788.

MAKATI Shangri-La offers local residents until tomorrow the Easter Rate Break room package—a two-night stay in a Superior room for only P6,000+. The package includes buffet breakfast for two at Island Café, a 20-percent discount on food and beverage, and unlimited access to the swimming pool and 24-hour Health Club. Easter Sunday activities include a morning Mass at 9 a.m. followed by an egg hunt at the Quezon Ballroom. Magic shows, games, raffles and a Meet 'n Greet session with Sesame Street's Elmo, Cookie Monster and Miffy the White Bunny are also featured. Easter-inspired chocolate eggs, cakes and pastries are available at the Easter Corner at the hotel's main lobby until today. Call 840-0884 or 813-8888 local 7588 or 7599.

OAKWOOD Premier offers local residents until today its Suite Easter Retreat. The promo offers a free third night's stay for every two-night booking. The package includes breakfast for two per bedroom excluding the complimentary night; welcome fruit platter, surprise Easter gift, and free use of the Health Club facilities. Call 729-8888.

Happy Easter!
April 20, 2003

RETREAT for treats at the Sulo Hotel



EASTER egg hunt at the Pan Pacific

MORE THAN 80% OFF!

The Philippines has barely 16% forest cover left. And illegal logging continues. Forests give us water. They also clean our air. Your donation to the Environmental Fund for Legal Action (EFLAC), helps guarantee the arrest, prosecution, and conviction of illegal loggers, traders of illegal timber, and other environmental criminals who threaten to steal what little remains of our forests. If we stop them today, we won't have to hold our breath about tomorrow. Give to the EFLAC. It's a once in a lifetime bargain.

For donations, call 4333220; or email kkp@wwf.org.ph; or deposit to BPI CA 1991-0043-07; or text WWF ACTION to 2366.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

WWF

Tied up in cable trouble

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

LA SALLE Professor Zeny Burgos couldn't stand how her favorite channels on Home Cable were being cancelled one by one. What was even worse, she complained, was that the remaining good channels just kept on showing re-runs of old movies day and night. "I am paying the same fee for a service that is getting worse," she said.

That wasn't the end of the story. When Prof. Burgos called up Home Cable's customer care office to terminate the service so she could transfer to another cable television company, she was informed that she had to pay P300 for termination fee.

"I couldn't believe it! They were not delivering the goods as they should, so it was only right to terminate the service. But to be charged for wanting to discontinue their service is outright consumer abuse. The National Telecommunication Commission should look into this," Prof. Burgos suggested.

When asked to explain the service termination fee, Home Cable invoked the cable TV service agreement regarding fees, rates and charges which stated the following:

"Fees, Rates and Charges—The subscriber agrees to pay the service charges to the Service Provider according to his selected payment plan in the Cable-TV service application form. The Service Provider reserves the right to increase the monthly subscription and impose charges other than indicated in the said form."

If a major cable TV provider can arbitrarily impose charges and increase rates, we can only fear the worst once the major cable TV providers merge, as rumors have it. The moral of the story is that consumers should read all the details before signing a contract.

DDD termination fee

Some months ago, a reader asked us if it was true that PLDT charged for termination of long distance features of a subscriber's telephone. Here's the reply from Horace Lavides of the PLDT public assistance office:

"There is no charge for disconnection of Direct Distance Dialing or DDD (International or National Direct Dial). But we have a special feature called 'Barring of 108/109' with a charge of P150 a month. With this feature, your phone bars access to PLDT operator-assisted domestic/international long distance call."

Not-so-express payment

Journalist Linda Bolido enrolled her Home Cable account with BPI's express phone payment system thinking it was the best thing that happened to busy folks like her. She could pay her bills any time. Moreover, she did not have to go to the bank or collection company where it was common to stand in line and wait for one's turn to pay.

"But now, I find that bank express phone payment is not that reliable," she complained. "I have been paying my monthly Home Cable TV fees through BPI. Despite regular payments, however, my February bill reflected an unpaid account for January. I had cited BPI's acknowledgment number (00215-Jan. 16, 2003) as proof of payment, but Home Cable said they had not received payment. What worries me is Home Cable charges P50 for payment that is 30 days late."

Obnoxious collectors

We received quite a number of feedback about our item on harassment from credit card collectors (this column last April 10). Here's one interesting comment from jabs4d@hotmail.com :

"My mother and I have been 'victims' (for lack of a better word) of credit card collectors, too. We have been called several times within the day. We also had to deal with the callers' abrasive tone. And although we had already settled our account, we still get statements of overdue accounts. The reminders come regularly even if we keep telling the credit card firm that the bill has been settled.

"We do recognize the collectors' legitimate objectives, but we believe that there are proper ways of dealing with clients. Who wants to be blacklisted (for non-payment of dues) anyway? If I remember correctly, credit card collectors in the United States are only allowed to call once a day during proper hours, and must only speak with the concerned client.

"On the flip side, we appreciate the patience of the credit card company people with regards to settlement of our account and their willingness to set a payment compromise to our convenience."

We would also like to add complaints against messengers who seem to think that because they are delivering bills, they can be rude and obnoxious. They yell the names of the addressees while still a few meters away and knock or press the doorbell like they are on a life or death errand.

Greenhills new parking fees

Lita C. of litacc41@yahoo.com and her fellow retirees are habitués of a Greenhills establishment. They start the day with a one-hour brisk walk around Virra Mall followed by a leisurely breakfast at fast food restaurants where they read newspapers and chat until establishments in the mall open. Then they either browse through the stores or watch a movie at Theater Mall. It was fun until the day they got a flier announcing new parking fees.

She wrote: "Effective March 31, the following were the new charges: P20 for the first three hours, P10 per hour thereafter. After the first five hours, P20 per hour. Considering the long hours we spend in the area, the excessive parking charges are not only unwarranted, but unjust. I cannot imagine paying P120 in parking fees when I (and my friends) bring business to the establishments there."

The retiree informed us that in contrast, SM City's open parking space reduced their fees from P10 for the first 3 hours and P10 for each succeeding hour, to a flat rate of P15, regardless of the length of time you are parked.

***

E-mail the author at mgiron@I-manila.com or lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

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You can also opt for a home makeover and visit furniture shops like Area or Ambiance One, or an audio-video store such as Avid Sony Shop. Another great shopping activity is to check out the latest eyewear at leading optical shops, or pose with family and friends in a digital photo studio like Picture Company.

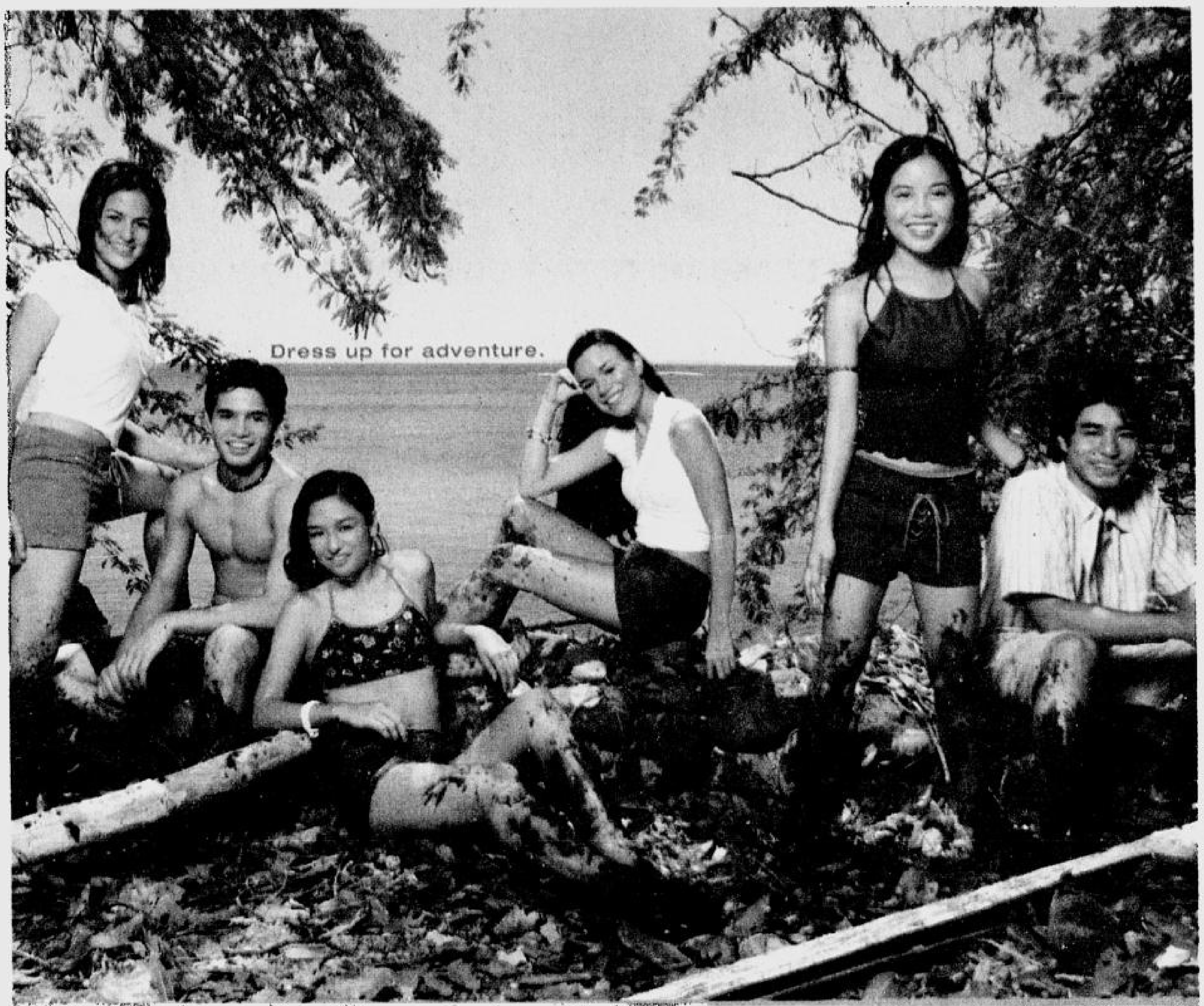
Let your Citibank Gold card or Citibank Visa Platinum be your ticket to the best deals in town and take advantage of as much as 50 percent off on food bills and room rates.

For the young and restless, go to bistros, shops and other establishments and get loads of discounts and freebies with your Citibank Clear MasterCard. The Citibank Clear MasterCard can give you as much as 30 percent off your bill at various hotspots in town.

Krocodile Grillery, 8th Day Bar Café, San Mig, Swatch, Bayo, Nike Park, Scuba World and Tieline are just a few of the most happening establishments that offer discounts.

Moreover, purchases amounting to P3,000 or higher lets you use the PayLite Installment Plan for affordable monthly payments on 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 or 24 months. You can immediately use PayLite at participating stores or call 423-3000 after you've made your purchase and have it converted to PayLite.

Call 995-9999 in Metro Manila or log on to www.citibank.com.ph.


Dress up for adventure.

PENSHOPPE EXTREME ADVENTURE

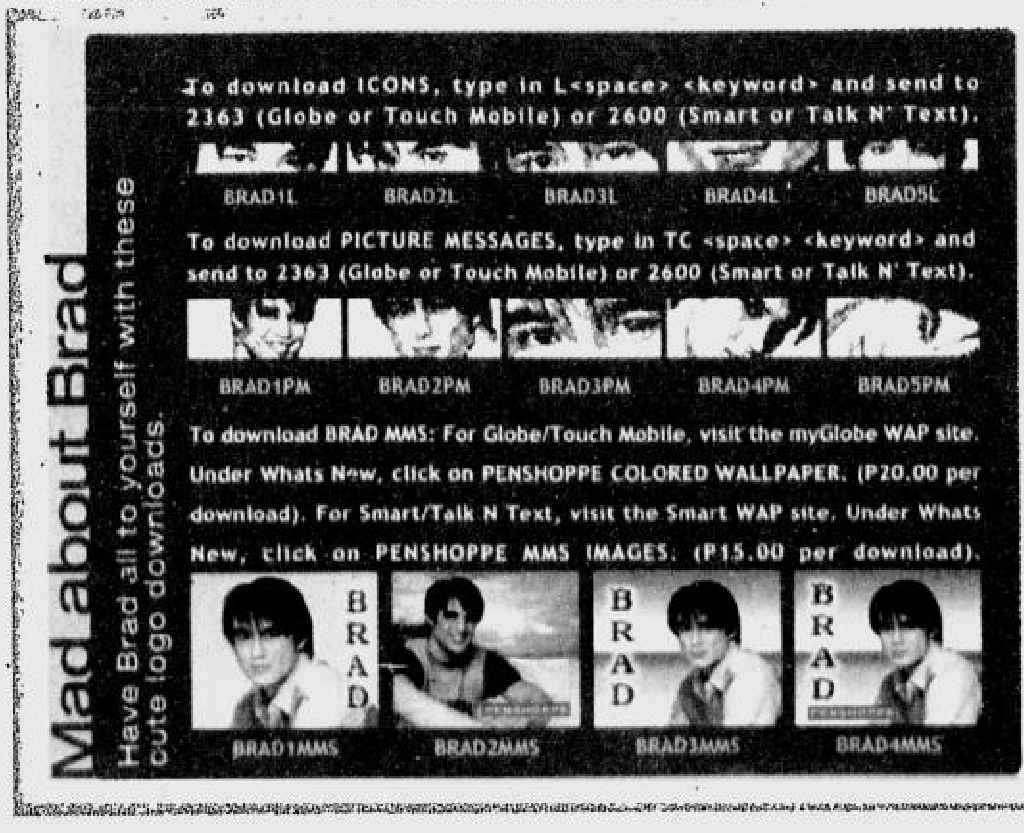
With every P500 purchase, get a chance to win one of these Eco-Adventure trips.

- Bohol Adventure for 5 with tarsier encounter, trekking and river cruise for the Northern Luzon winner.
- Palawan Adventure for 5, with a wildlife sanctuary cruise and African jungle tour for the Metro Manila winner.
- Cebu Adventure for 5, including bird watching, cruising, and marine sanctuary immersion for the Southern Luzon winner.
- Cagayan/Kalinga Adventure for 5, including spelunking, kayaking, boating, rappelling and whitewater rafting for the Visayas winner.
- Subic Adventure for 5, including trekking and survival training (JEST) for the Mindanao winner.

1 winner will be drawn from each area, and will win the corresponding package tour for 5, including a Kodak CX4200 digital camera. Trips are transferable but not convertible to cash. A participant can only win once. If a participant wins more than once, s/he gets the bigger prize.

HOW TO JOIN:
For a minimum purchase of P500 at any Penshoppe outlet, you can win an Eco-Adventure for yourself and 4 of your friends in Penshoppe's SMS raffle promo.
All you need is your receipt (for customers of Penshoppe Boutiques) or a 6-digit code which will be given to you by a Penshoppe sales staff after paying (for customers of Penshoppe Outlets in Department Stores).

See posters and flyers for more details. Promo period: April 13 - May 15, 2003. Per DTI-NCR permit # 1368 series of 2003.



To download ICONS, type in L<space> <keyword> and send to 2363 (Globe or Touch Mobile) or 2600 (Smart or Talk N' Text).

To download PICTURE MESSAGES, type in TC <space> <keyword> and send to 2363 (Globe or Touch Mobile) or 2600 (Smart or Talk N' Text).

To download BRAD MMS: For Globe/Touch Mobile, visit the myGlobe WAP site. Under Whats New, click on PENSHOPPE COLORED WALLPAPER. (P20.00 per download). For Smart/Talk N Text, visit the Smart WAP site. Under Whats New, click on PENSHOPPE MMS IMAGES. (P15.00 per download).

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After each song title is its corresponding song code: "Crush": crush, "Walk me home": walk, "Someday We'll Know": someday

Monophonic ringtones:
For Globe/Touch Mobile: For Ringtones type in N<space><keyword> and send to 2363. Ex. N CRUSH
For Smart/Talk N Text: For Ringtones type in PEN<space>N<space><keyword> and send to 2600. Ex. PEN N CRUSH

Polyphonic ringtones:
For Globe/Touch Mobile, visit the myGlobe WAP site. Under Whats New, click on PENSHOPPE POLYPHONIC TONES. P20.00 per download.
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NOW STREAMING

ON YOUR CELFONES

SMART
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1:35 Playing
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Linkin Park
Music Video
0:00/0:13
Option
Back

Introducing

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Video Streaming

Check out what's hot and watch it right on your celfone.

By connecting you to video and audio links on the internet, SMART Video Streaming* lets you access the latest music videos of the hottest artists like Linkin Park and Craig David, video clips of popular animes like Voltes V and Knockout, and trailers of box-office hits like Chicago and Matrix Reloaded.

What's more, you may soon access LIVE videos like news, sports features, performances, as well as other specials that catch your fancy - so you can watch them as it happens, where it happens. Through state-of-the-art SMART GPRS technology, you can make all these possible at the push of a button. Just another innovation from your undisputed leader in wireless telecommunications - SMART.

*Initially available on the SMART Amazing Phone, Nokia 3650, and Nokia 7650 (Nokia 7650 users must first download RealOne Player from http://www.real.com/realonemobile/download.html on their computers, then transfer/install into their handsets). Coming soon on the Sony Ericsson P800.

Available Titles For Video Streaming

Music Videos
- Can't Stop – Red Hot Chili Peppers
- Disease – Matchbox Twenty
- Hidden Agenda – Craig David
- Gossip Folks – Missy Elliot
- Jealous – Nina
- Somewhere I Belong – Linkin Park
- Bring Me To Life – Evanescence
- I Drove All Night – Celine Dion
- Bump, Bump, Bump – B2K
- A.D.I.D.A.S. – Killer Mike
- When I See You – Macy Gray
- In This Life (The Hours) – Chantal Kreviazuk

Movie Trailers
- 25th Hour
- Anger Management
- Lord Of The Rings - The Two Towers
- So Close
- Charlie's Angels - Full Throttle
- Chicago
- Identity
- Matrix Reloaded

Anime Clips
- Daimos
- Ghostfighter
- HunterXHunter
- Knockout
- Slamdunk
- Voltes V
- Trigun
- Oh My Goddess

...with more [illegible]

How to access SMART Video Streaming

1. Visit the SMART WAP site.
2. Click on the "Video Streaming" link.
3. Select your phone type.
4. Click on the video of your choice.

- SMART Amazing Phone users may also get a list of titles [illegible]. Just visit the WindowsMedia.com portal.
- Nokia 3650 users may opt to view their choice videos via Internet. Simply click on "Yes" when asked to disconnect from SMART GPRS.
- SMART Video Streaming charges P0.25 for every kilobyte streamed.

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APRIL 27, 2003
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For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE

ALL TOGETHER NOW. INQUIRER Lifestyle staff, SM Shoemart VP for marketing Millie Dizon and Make a Wish Foundation volunteers with wish kids

INQUIRER Lifestyle and kind hearts treat kids with serious illnesses to a day of fun and affirmation

In these frail young bodies, Easter throbs

Text by Constantino C. Tejero
Photos by Ernie Sarmiento

ONCE a year the Lifestyle staff ties up with SM Shoemart and Cabalen to give a few seriously ill children a treat. Since there is always so much going on around Christmas, we decided last year to move our date with the kids to Easter time.

This year, we tapped the Make a Wish Foundation (MAWF) through MAWF adviser and Gift Gate owner **Virgie Ramos**, for a list of kids whose wishes were simple: toys, clothes, food, fun, a day at the mall.

MAWF officers and volunteers brought along six beneficiaries for our wish-granting at SM Megamall last Thursday. Meeting place was the Hello Kitty Café.

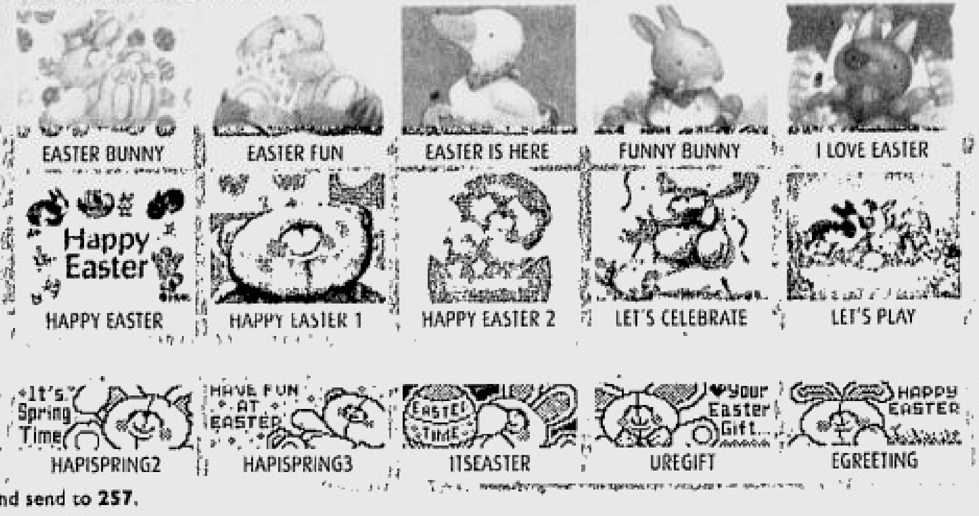
After a hearty buffet in Cabalen, hosted by **Dori** and **Maritel Shani**, the kids trooped to

IN THESE FRAIL/ D2

DAN PAULO Lalunio with Virgie Ramos

HELLO KITTY becomes refuge for Dan Paul, Princess and Marry

Spot an Easter surprise.



No need to hunt for cute Easter cards. SMART has just hatched these MMS Hallmark Hi Easter cards! Get them while they're fresh. They're the surest, fastest way to send the very best this season. There's a whole basketful to choose from, so pass it on now!

SMART mms
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COLORED MMS FUN PIX*

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HAPPY EASTER · HAPPY EASTER 1 · HAPPY EASTER 2 · LET'S CELEBRATE · LET'S PLAY

PICTURE MESSAGES

EWISHES · EWISHES2 · HAPISPRING · HAPISPRING2 · HAPISPRING3 · ITSEASTER · UREGIFT · EGREETING · EASTERFUN

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ITSEASTER · EASTERFUN · EASTERFUN2 · EGREETING · HAPISPRING

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Hallmark hi

Cost per download is ₱15.00. To download other SMART MMS Fun Pix, Card Toons, Traffic Shots and Poly Tones, just visit the SMART WAPsite using your MMS capable handset.

* Exclusively for MMS-capable handsets.

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SMART
Simply Amazing!

SHOPPERS (from left) Brix Malana, Princess Quilana, Dan Paulo Lalunio, Marry Narvadez, Eldex Cantila, Clarissa Ann Narvadez with SM's Rio Marie Castillo, Millie Dizon and Willa Santiago

MARRY Narvadez

In these frail young bodies, Easter throbs

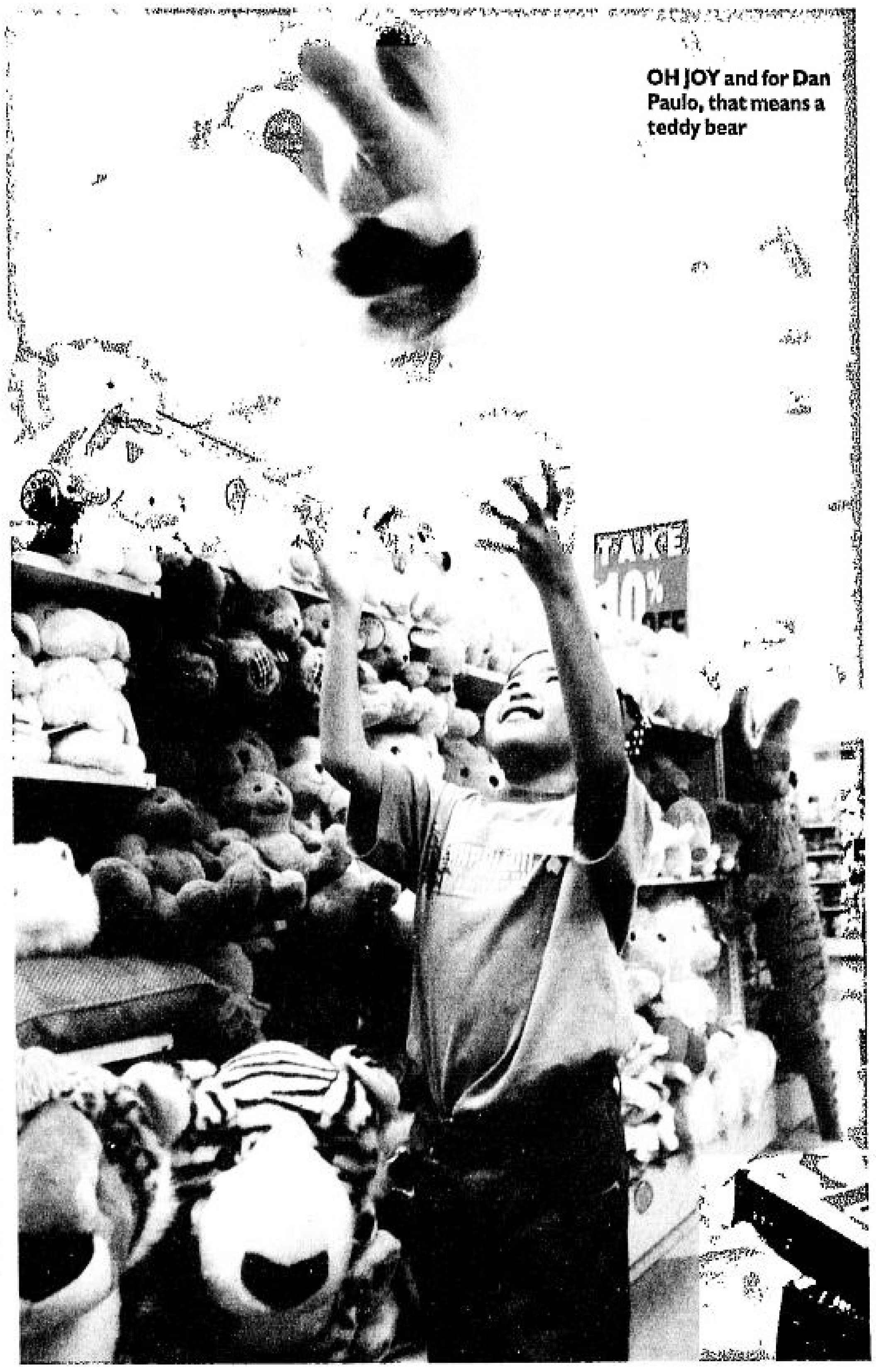
From page D1

Gift Gate to watch **Eldex Cantilla's** wish of meeting **Kris Aquino** came true (see related story on p. D5).

Gift Gate, MAWF's first corporate partner in the Philippines, also launched the MAWF Star pencil, a slim blue pencil with its upper portion shaped into a star. For every pencil sold at P25, P5 goes to MAWF.

Guided by their parents, guardians, MAWF volunteers and the Lifestyle staff, the kids then went on a shopping spree at SM Shoemart with the gift certificates issued to them by **Millie Dizon**, SM vice president for marketing and her assistants **Willa Santiago** and **Rio Marie Castillo**.

IN THESE FRAIL/ D4

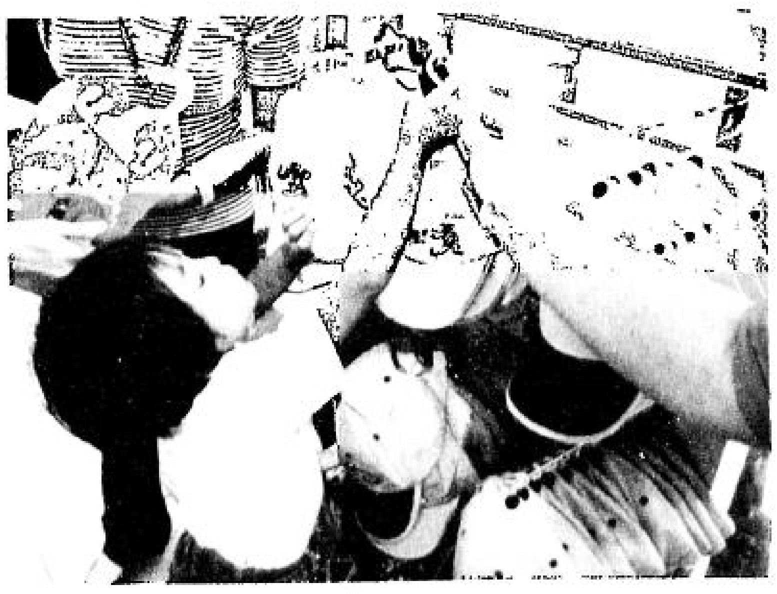


OH JOY and for Dan Paulo, that means a teddy bear

NEW
Johnson's baby cologne summer swing
Amoy baby na baby!
Johnson & Johnson

BIKE for Brix Malana, with Millie Dizon and MAWF founder Eddie Boy Santos

FIT FOR A PRINCESS. Shirt for Princess Quilana



CLARISSE Ann Dispo reaches for caps

College survival camp ongoing

THE STI Education Services Group (STI) introduces a three-day college survival camp dubbed the "Campers Strike Challenge" from April to May. The program aims to prepare senior high school students on how to overcome post-graduation problems and difficulties in a fun-filled, interactive and exciting manner.

Campers Strike is actually a motivational event through games and simulations.

It will teach new skills and key competencies that students will need to hurdle challenges after high school. The event, to be held for the first time by STI, will serve as a venue for students to learn qualifications most companies are looking for in an employee, such as communication, organization, logic, leadership, energy, group skills and entrepreneurial skills (College).

The Campers Strike Challenge will be held in all STI school campuses and will accept three groups per battle with a maximum of 15 members per group and a minimum of 10.

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Wish nila, natupad na!

EQual Pagmamahal

Kalusugan ni Baby, Kayamanan ni Mommy

NCR

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Congratulations sa mga nagwagi sa 3rd Monthly Draw ng EQual Pagmamahal raffle promo ng EQ Diapers. Maaari pa kayong manalo ng **Health Card** para kay Baby at **Pension Plan** worth as much as P500,000 para sa inyo sa Grand Draw. Kaya magpadala na ng entries at maaaring wish ninyo ang susunod na matutupad!

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2411, Series of 2002

Di Kailangang Mahal Ang Pagmamahal

Cabalen
SPECIALTY RESTAURANT

YOUNG satisfied diners of Cabalen pose with owners Dori and Maritel Shani and Make a Wish Foundation volunteers

In these frail young bodies, Easter throbs

KIDS enjoy ice cream from Concon Reyes, Cabalen operations manager and Ruel Valdez, Cabalen Megamall branch manager

From page D2

One-on-one

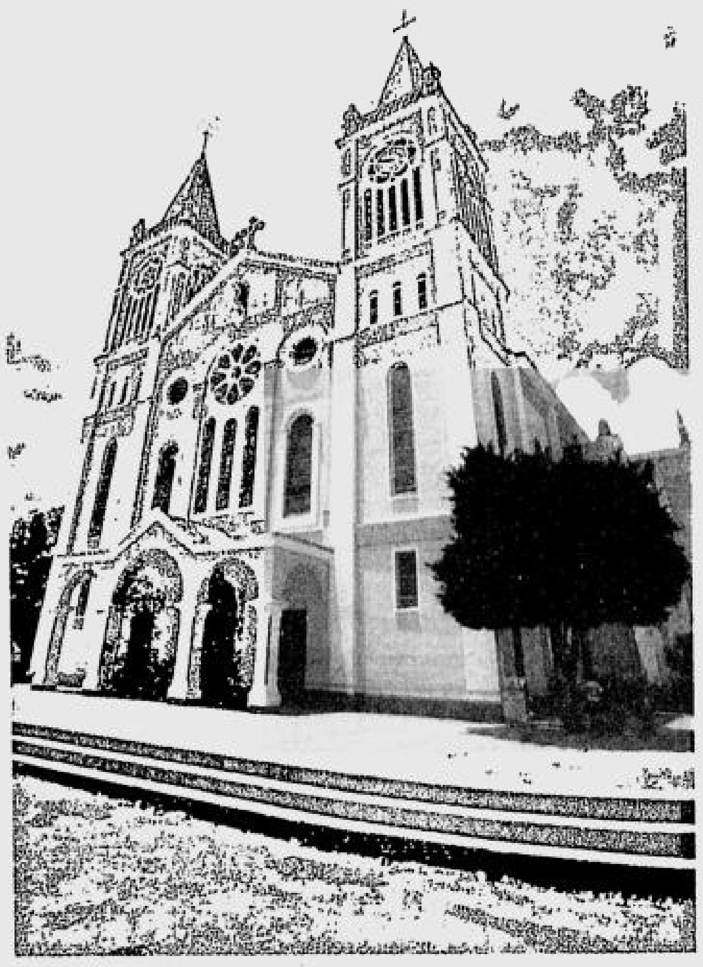
Vangie Baga-Reyes was "fostering" **Princess Quilana**, 6, a girl from Albay being treated for leukemia at the Philippine General Hospital.

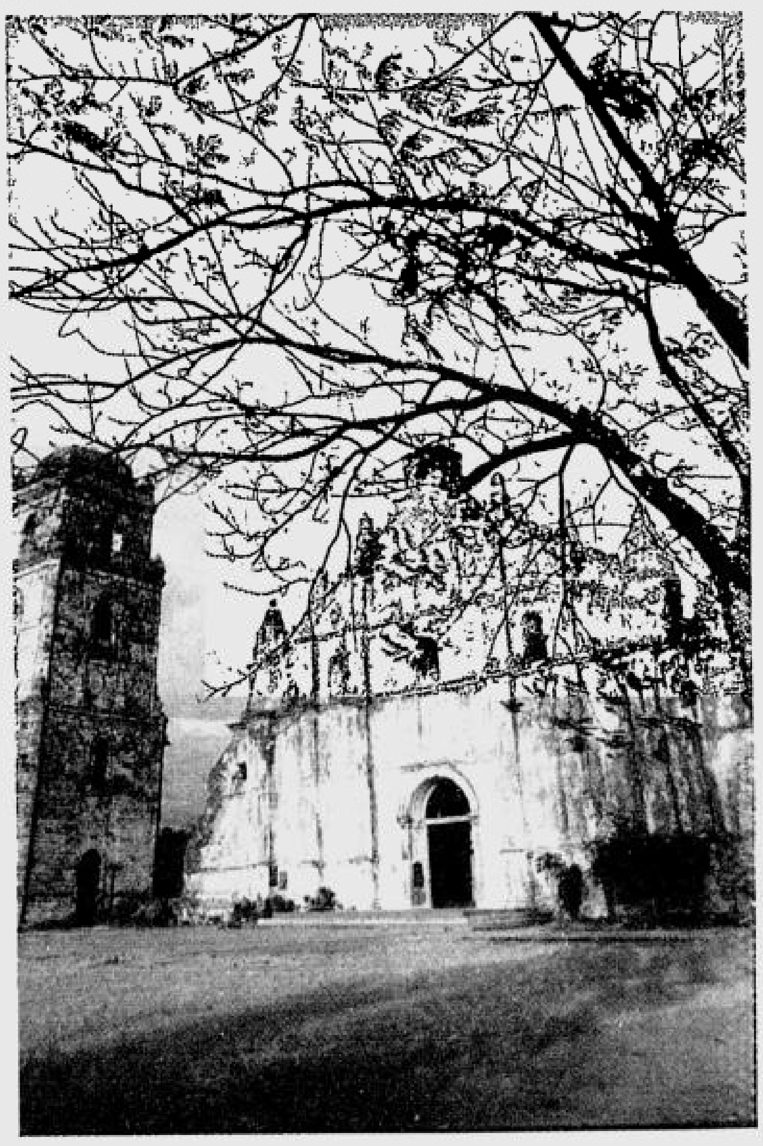
Princess came with her mother, **Gina**. She had wished for a Play Station 2, which was duly granted by a donor. As extra, Vangie bought her denim pants and a yellow floral blouse.

Rowena Burgos had **Dan Paulo Lalunio**, 9, a Grade 3 pupil from Tiaong East Elementary School, in Quezon, who has tetralogy of fallot (TOF) and brain abscess. Since infancy the boy has had a heart problem that has resulted in TOF. He came with parents **Loreto** and **Dinia** and sister **Donna**. Dan bought a Crush Gear Car, Armor Warrior, pink teddy bear (for Donna), Shuttle paint box, Clip

IN THESE FRAIL/ D5

BUFFET TIME for Eldex Cantilla and father Dixter





SMART zed™

Choose what you want.

In these frail young bodies, Easter throbs

From page D4

Crafts, writing board, battling tray, Viewmaster key chain, and toy dragon. The family also got a free overnight stay with breakfast in a suite in Astoria Plaza with courtesy of Ms Vivian Ng.

Jasmine Payo guided **Brix Malana**, 9, a boy from Cagayan who was diagnosed with leukemia three years ago. He has stopped school since. He's getting treatment at East Avenue Hospital, but his left eye has now gone blind due to complications.

He came with his father **Domingo**, as mother **Linda** had to stay home for his two sisters. He had wished for a bike, and got a yellow one at Toy Kingdom.

Easter gifts

Allison Lopez had **Clarisse Ann Dispo**, 5, a girl with leukemia from Baesa, Caloocan City, who's entering nursery school in June.

She came with her mother, **Malou**, Lola **Marina**, sister **Mae Mae** and V. Luna Hospital childlife coordinator **Aida**. She wished to have Mickey Mouse items. And she got a Minnie Mouse doll, water jug, set of hair clips and bands, two T-shirts (one for her *Ate* Mae Mae), a Mickey Mouse throw-pillow, toothbrush, lunchbox, calculator—most items pink and purple.

Belle Bondoc guided **Marry Narvadez**, 10, from Sta. Mesa, Manila, who has leukemia and is getting treatment in PGH. The girl wants to go back to school, to finish high school, at least. She came with mother Erlinda. She got a pair of "flying" shoes, denim pants and skirt, two T-shirts and extra grocery items.

Three kids couldn't make it for shopping that day but MAWF-International director **Eduardo Santos** and the other MAWF volunteers shopped for them using the SM gift certificates.

Jester Bernal, 4, who has leukemia, got a Gameboy. **Fatima Cabugatan**, 9, who also has leukemia, was given a pink bike. **Cherry de la Cruz**, 12, who has end-stage renal failure, got clothes.

SM gave all the kids baskets of goodies and Easter Bunny headbands and balloons. During the picture taking that ended the shopping spree, their shy smiles banished all traces of the pain they had to bear.

Call MAWF at 817-7395.

Goodbye, Eldex

ELDEX Cantilla putting on the Swatch given by Kris Aquino

" *'YAN ang katuwang ko sa bukid, pinakamasipag kong anak,*" said Dixer Cantilla, 43, of the boy beside him. "*Nagtatanim, nagpipiko, nagbubuhat s'ya ng saging, kamoteng-kahoy. Kalahating sako ng bigas kaya n'ya*—25 kilos *'yan.*"

It was astonishing to hear that gangly Eldex Cantilla, only 14, could do all that; so frail did he look he could hardly walk without shuffling a little.

Eldex had aplastic anemia, a condition characterized by reduction in platelets, the particles in the blood essential to clot formation. The condition was diagnosed only last November.

He would have been in high school, but his physical condition was too fragile so he stopped going to school. He had to wear a surgical mask everywhere he went.

When Eldex expressed a wish to meet Kris Aquino, host of the Channel 2 game show "Game Ka Na Ba?," his parents applied with Make-a-Wish Foundation (MAWF), the international group that grants the wishes of terminally ill children.

The wish-granting was quick. A date with Kris Aquino was arranged by Virgie Ramos, Gift Gate owner and a member of the MAWF-Philippines board of advisers .

On Thursday morning, April 10, Eldex met Kris at the Gift Gate outlet in SM Megamall.

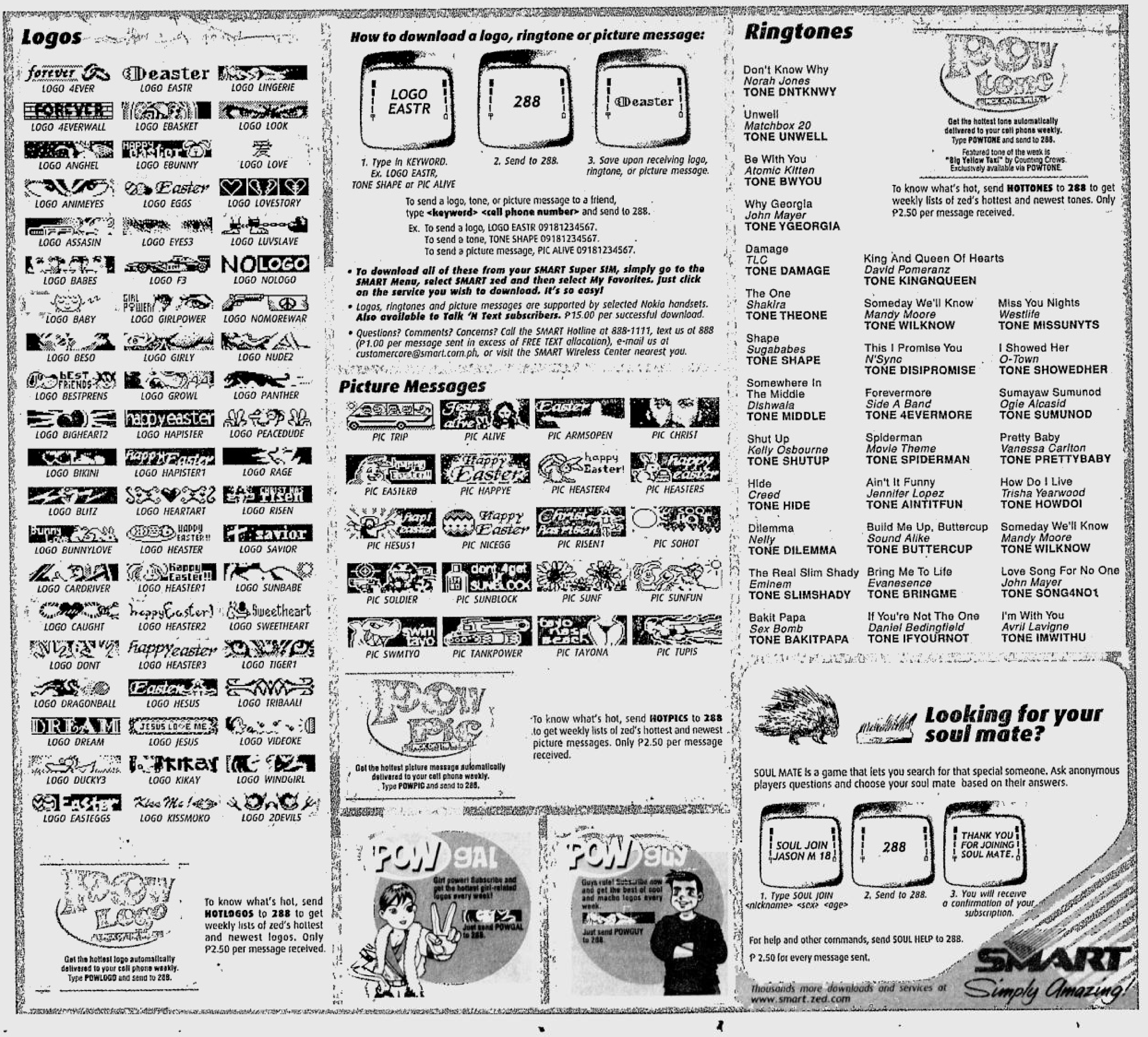
The bubbly actress' greeting to the boy was: "Have you had lunch?" She had photos taken with Eldex and gave him two Swatch watches, courtesy of Gift Gate.

The boy told her about his need of precious platelets, and she asked how his family could be contacted so she could give his name to some organization that could provide his regular blood transfusion.

"Often on my show I encourage donors to give cash, to cover the cost for treatment," she said.

Eldex was reticent, and when he talked, it was only in undertone. Asked what he and Kris talked about, he said with his soulful eyes smiling: "Ganda raw ng pilik-mata ko."

At noon on Holy Wednesday, Eldex was rushed to the National Children's Hospital. He died at 3 p.m. His family and friends at MAWF and INQUIRER request the readers to pray that eternal light shine upon dear Eldex.



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Featured tone of the week is "Big Yellow Taxi" by Counting Crows. Exclusively available via POWTONE.

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TONE DNTKNWY

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Matchbox 20
TONE UNWELL

Be With You
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TONE BWYOU

Why Georgia
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TONE YGEORGIA

Damage
TLC
TONE DAMAGE

The One
Shakira
TONE THEONE

Shape
Sugababes
TONE SHAPE

Somewhere In The Middle
Dishwala
TONE MIDDLE

Shut Up
Kelly Osbourne
TONE SHUTUP

Hide
Creed
TONE HIDE

Dilemma
Nelly
TONE DILEMMA

The Real Slim Shady
Eminem
TONE SLIMSHADY

Bakit Papa
Sex Bomb
TONE BAKITPAPA

King And Queen Of Hearts
David Pomeranz
TONE KINGNQUEEN

Someday We'll Know
Mandy Moore
TONE WILKNOW

This I Promise You
N'Sync
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Side A Band
TONE 4EVERMORE

Spiderman
Movie Theme
TONE SPIDERMAN

Ain't It Funny
Jennifer Lopez
TONE AINTITFUN

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Sound Alike
TONE BUTTERCUP

Bring Me To Life
Evanesence
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TONE SHOWEDHER

Sumayaw Sumunod
Ogie Alcasid
TONE SUMUNOD

Pretty Baby
Vanessa Carlton
TONE PRETTYBABY

How Do I Live
Trisha Yearwood
TONE HOWDOI

Someday We'll Know
Mandy Moore
TONE WILKNOW

Love Song For No One
John Mayer
TONE SONG4NO1

I'm With You
Avril Lavigne
TONE IMWITHU

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Wish kids get early Easter treat

Make-A-Wish Foundation and Gift Gate show it is never too early to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening illnesses

SCENES that warm the heart: Young guest playing with turtle from Kinder Zoo and (below) a boy enjoying the Lego corner

Photos by Monique SR Villonco

EASTER came early for the "wish kids" of the Make-A-Wish Foundation Philippines (MAWF), an international foundation present in 27 countries which grants wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses.

With Gift Gate, MAWF's first corporate partner, the foundation hosted an early Easter Hat Party at the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel's Outdoor Tent for 22 wish kids.

Different people from different walks of life helped grant the children's wishes in a multitude of ways for a multitude of reasons.

In memory of Louie Coson who recently passed away due to cancer, Gift Gate gave a PlayStation 2 and a television for wish kid John.

Joel Jay Taguid, who was celebrating his birthday that day, chose to celebrate the special day by granting the wish of Mary Grace to have an electric guitar.

A family gave up their annual vacation to get John Kevin a PlayStation 2. They get their wish not to be identified.

Alessa and Aya Libongco, daughters of Westin Philippines Plaza's marketing director Rose Libongco, bought a bike for wish kid Brix instead of getting a bike for themselves.

WISH/ D7

THE INTERNATIONAL School Manila's Show Choir performs a medley from "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

MODEL TWINS Robby Mananquil and Rissa Samson blow out their birthday candles with the rest of the PMAP gang and the wish kids.

NINO gets his wish to meet actor Bong Revilla, who came with children Yna and Jolo here enjoying the wards of Kinder Zoo.

THE EASTER HAT
PART
RUE THIS EAS

LAST wish granted is Michael's wish to meet the Pope in the Vatican through the generosity of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and Make-A-Wish International.

WESTIN'S marketing director Rose Libongco hands out chocolate treats during the Russ egg hunt hosted by the hotel, with Westin GM Anthony Page and emcee Jolina Magdangal.

INESS IS SHAR
MAKE

PERSONAL computers for wish kids Franilyn and Antero (above) from Gift Gate are presented by MAWF president Celine Madamba.

STER HA
ING,
A·WISH
COME TRUE THI

WISH kid Dean Martin is all smiles as he is presented a bike by Sen. Kiko Pangilinan.

JOHN Kevin gets a PlayStation 2 from a family who gave up a trip to the beach while John Patrick gets TV and VCD from Erwin and Mina Elechicon, both presented by Annika Valdes (center).

PHILIPPINE PLAZA
MANILA
THE EASTER HAT
PARTY
HAPPINESS IS SHARING,
MAKE·A·WISH
COME
TER

WISH kid Regine with her wish to meet Jolina, who gave her a huge Hello Kitty doll and other Kitty goodies

Wish kids get early Easter treat

From page D6

As these were children running against time, the early Easter treat could not have come at a more opportune moment.

This was especially true of wish kid Eldex, who had wanted to meet his idol, Kris Aquino. In spite of her hectic schedule, Kris met Eldex at Gift Gate Megamall. He passed away last Holy Wednesday, barely a week after his wish was granted.

Sharing doesn't mean giving only money. The Professional Models Association of the Philippines modelled Easter hats while the students of the International School Manila performed songs from "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" for the kids.

Westin Philippine Plaza became the wish kids' home away from home for 24 hours. Irene Martel Francisco hosted the dinner and video games at Harrison Plaza for the kids.

All the support, especially from the MAWF volunteers, has shown that granting a child's wish is a worthy cause—not just for the Easter season, but for the rest of the year as well.

Call the MAWF at 817-7395.

ALESSA and Aya Libongco sacrifice buying a bike for themselves to grant the wish of wish kid Brix for a mountain bike.

ANTON San Diego presents Princess with the PlayStation 2 from Chit Salud and Gina Rodriguez, and the JVC TV from Michael Kho.

Kevin KLINE Kristin SCOTT THOMAS Hayden CHRISTENSEN Jena MALONE Mary STEENBURGEN

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0839, Series of 2003

This was the last time they were all together.

Rhoel was the first to go.
He got promoted and now works in Dubai.

Lani settled down in Seattle.

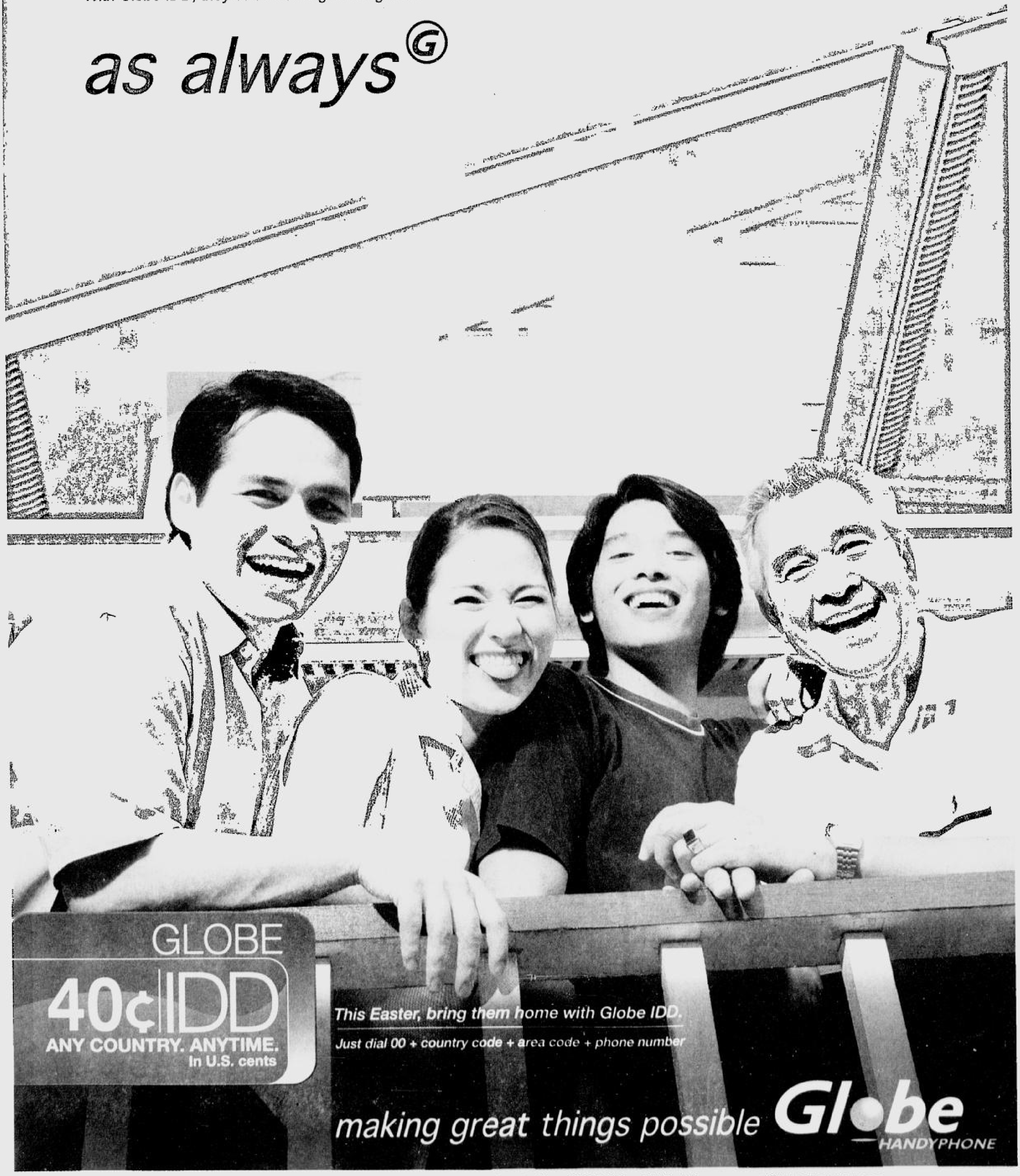
Edgar— Eddieboy to his mama— is now
a comic book artist in Vancouver.

And Globe 40-cents IDD is all it takes to bring them all back.

So, every Easter Sunday their dad calls them up one by one
and he can once again clearly hear Rhoel laugh,
Lani sniffle, and Eddieboy do that annoying giggle,
just like that summer day, many years ago.

With Globe IDD, they can all be together again...

as always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Sunday LIFESTYLE

MELVIN and Elisa Lim (née Sia)

Shakespeare inspires dream wedding

Story on page E6

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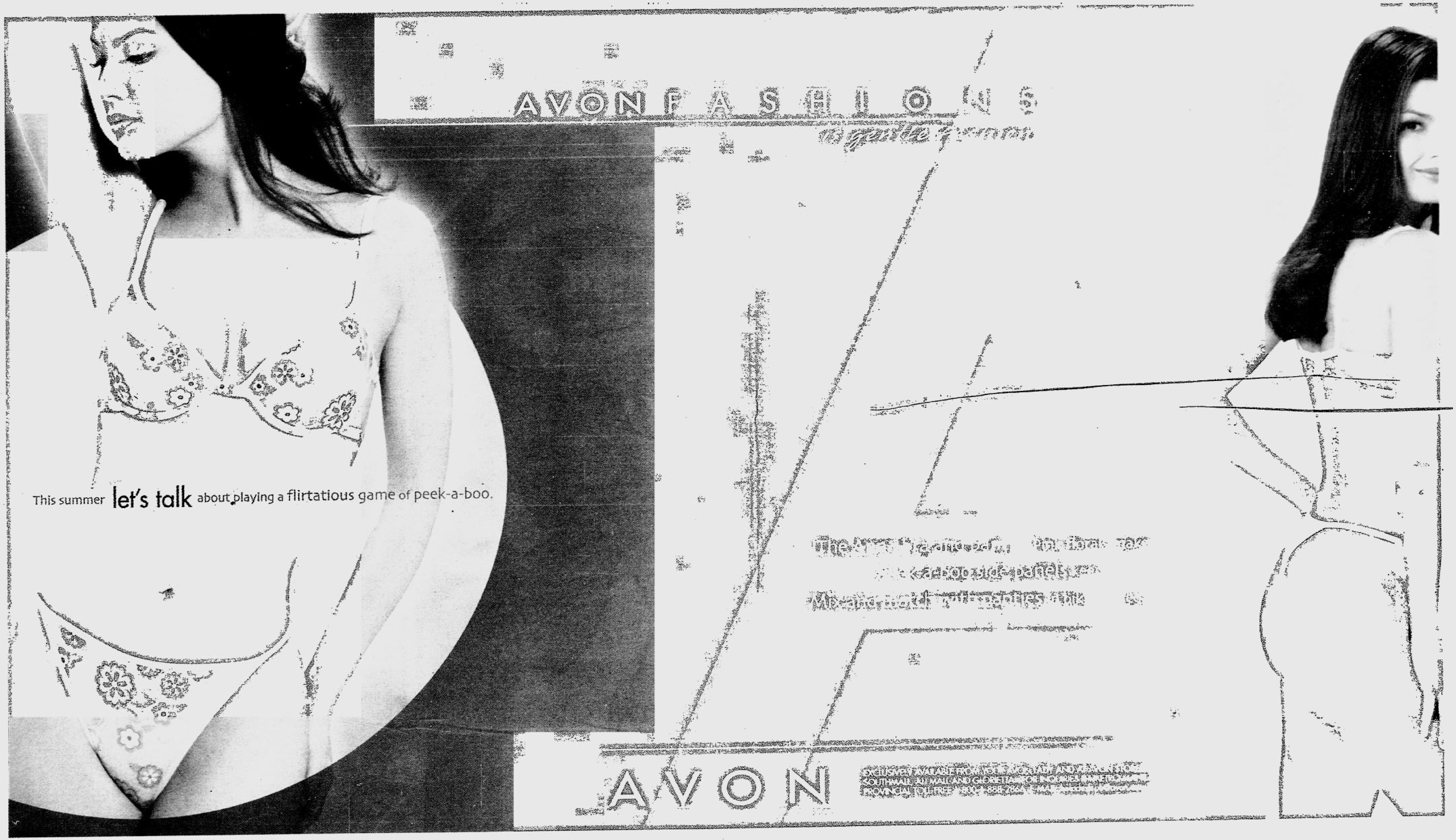

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Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0295, Series of 2003

THE COUPLE with the principal sponsors

RUBY'S lovely bridesmaids

THE NEWLYWEDS with the secondary sponsors

NEWLYWEDS Nikulas and Ruby Lebajo (née Asoy)

Union of an artist and writer

NICOLE Franco "Nikulas" Lebajo and Ruby Villaster Asoy recently exchanged vows at the Parish of St. Jerome Emiliani and St. Susana in Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

Reception followed at Stonecrest Club in San Pedro, Laguna. Guests feasted on the sumptuous cuisine prepared by Queensland Catering Services.

Classical singer Nolyn Cabahug and Dessa rendered song numbers during the church and reception ceremonies. The event was photographed and videotaped by the team of Rose Robles, Warson Cipriano and Felman Felipe. The bride and entourage's makeup were done by Ricky Reyes makeup artists Wendy, Bubble, Roy and Vernie. Ruby's beaded, off-shoulder gown was designed by Let Legaspi of San Pedro, Laguna.

Principal sponsors were artist Raul Isidro, Atty. Rodolfo V. Romero, Atty. Reynaldo Bustos Robles, Rufino Abad, businessmen Edwin Mangampo and Manny Nicolas, gallery owner Ed Soler, journalist Fundador Soriano, Cook Magazine's general manager Edgar Sy, and veteran writer Pablo Tariman; Dr. Mercedes Thelma H. Lebajo, Dr. Mira Batrina-Hipolito, Rica de Jesus of Rustan's, marketing and sales consultant Marcia Cacho, magazine editor Linda Celestial, movie producer/advertising consultant Natalie Palanca, businesswoman Menchie Velarde, journalism supervisor Liwayway Mercado, writer Helen Flores, and journalism professor Nilda Dimla.

Nikulas, a minimalist artist, is the son of surrealist artist Raul Lebajo and Elena Lebajo.

Ruby works as a lifestyle writer and account manager for a leading magazine. She is the daughter of Romeo and Sally Asoy.

NOLYN Cabahug

INTERIOR of St. Jerome Church

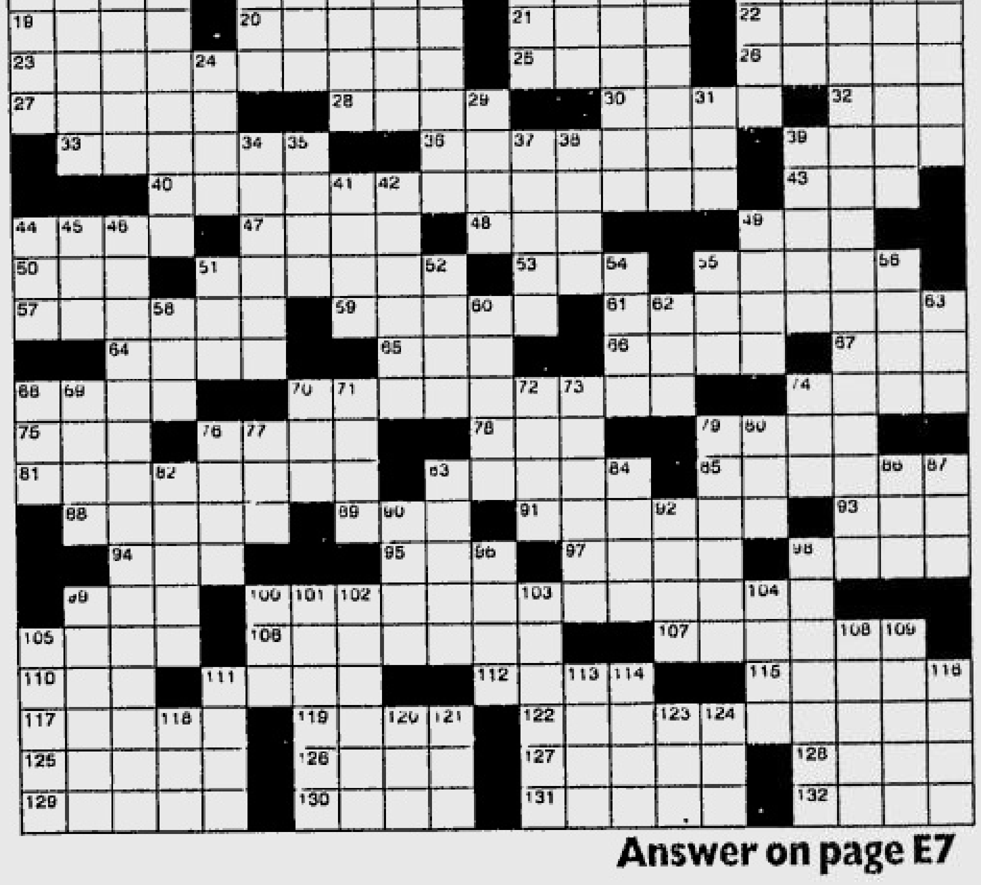
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

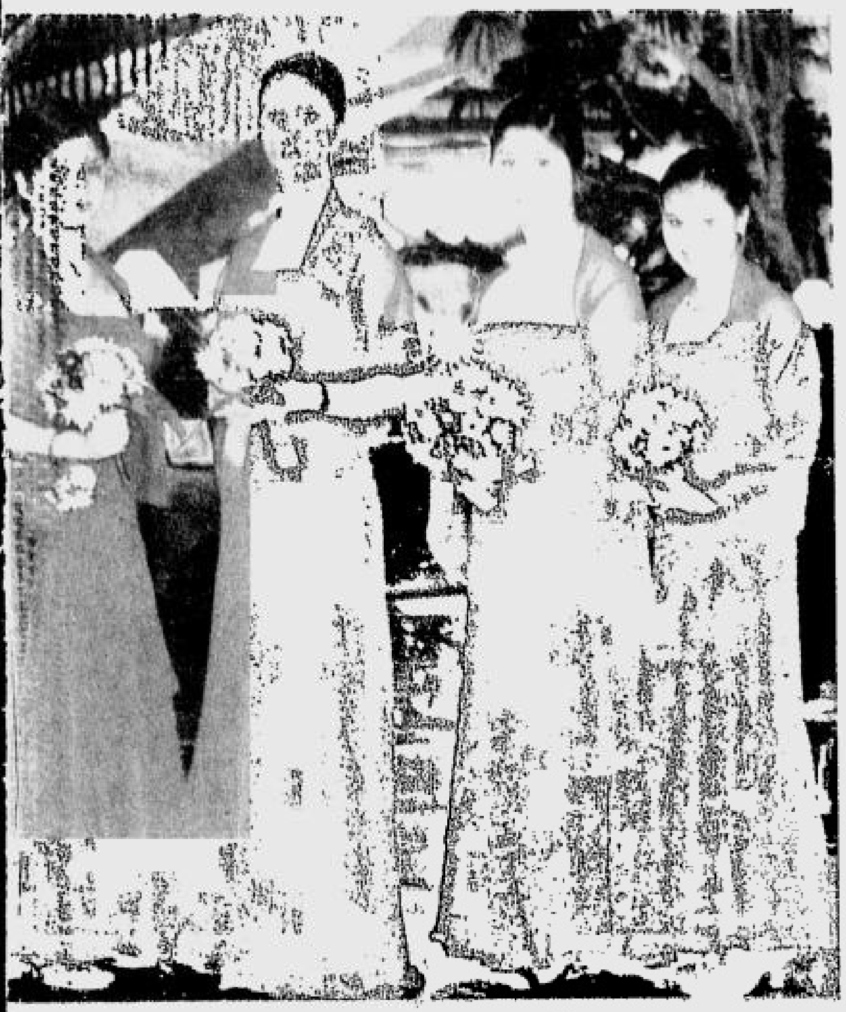
BASKET CASES

ACROSS
1 Word with candy or copy
5 Grumbles
10 Pro foe
14 Dough nut?
19 Nautical adverb
20 It's kept in a quiver
21 Ditch under a drawbridge
22 Prelim
23 Easter general?
25 Melba melody
26 "Slammin' Sam"
27 Make some dough
28 Auto pioneer
30 Ballet movement
32 Pressure meas.
33 Take
36 Beatles manager Brian
39 Impatient interrogative
40 Easter composer?
43 "Tell — No" ('65 hit)
44 "Dies —"
47 Keen
48 Sock part
49 Mozart's "Cosi — tutte"
50 "Pinocchio" frame
51 Famous frog
53 Place-kicker's prop
55 Cole slaw, e.g.
57 Phillips — Academy
59 Grate stuff
61 Actress Ruehl
64 Gals' counterparts
65 Garage supply
66 Nastase of tennis
67 Diminutive suffix
68 Billboard
70 Easter comic?
74 "Git, Garfield!"
75 Part of FDIC
76 Dread
78 Substance partner
79 Falcon feature
81 Rascal
83 Adagio or allegro
85 More abundant
88 — for news
89 WWII area
91 Least vivid
93 Khan opener?
94 Speck
95 Police acronym
97 Director Wertmuller
98 — Minor
99 Unseld or Craven
100 Easter ballplayer?
105 Challenge
106 It's hardly aesthetic
107 Former trees
110 Little devil
111 For fear that
112 Narcissus' nymph
115 Paper units
117 Fern feature
119 Walrus weapon
122 Easter crooner?
125 '61 Sam Cooke hit
126 Morlocks' prey
127 Declaim
128 "— never work!"
129 — -3 fatty acid
130 Talk wildly
131 Travis or Quaid
132 Concerning

DOWN
1 Carol start
2 George Hamilton's ex
3 Renaissance fiddle
4 Fiasco
5 Wrestling surface
6 Mine find
7 Chip off Woody's block
8 Playwright Coward
9 Where to drink glogg
10 Nephrologists' org.
11 Neither's partner
12 Asian capital
13 Type type
14 "— en scene"
15 Hostelry
16 Easter statesman?
17 School supply
18 "The Thinker" sculptor
24 "— fixe"
29 Tiff
31 Calligrapher's need
34 Groovy Austin
35 Dictator
37 Edinburgh natives
38 Quaker's pronoun
39 Cetacean
41 Iwo —
42 LaPlaca or Lurie
44 "— Station Zebra" ('68 film)
45 Ingram or Reed
46 Easter poet?
49 Mirror image?
51 Essential
52 Mix with water
54 Runner Zatopek
55 — Lanka
56 Creme — creme
58 Winery item
60 "Family Ties" mom
62 Conduit fitting
63 Jell
68 Shirley, to Warren
69 Cuzco native
70 Remark from 77 Down
71 Coax
72 Bison feature
73 Serengeti speedster
74 Fool
76 Express
77 Meadow mama
79 Volcanic rock
80 CPR provider
82 Baggy
83 "Godzilla" setting
84 Lena of "Chocolat"
86 Inventor Whitney
87 Rug type
90 Reveille's opposite
92 They may be spilt
96 Farm unit
98 Neighbor of Georgia
99 Squanto's simoleons
100 "— Haw"
101 Pearl harbor?
102 Singer Clark
103 Berlioz or Babenco
104 Continental currency
105 '70s music
108 Unisex garment
109 Food fish
111 A swan was her swain
113 Israeli dance
114 — even keel
116 Normandy site
118 Equipment
120 "— of a Preacher Man" ('68 hit)
121 Baby beaver
123 Accounting abbr.
124 Turkish title



Answer on page E7



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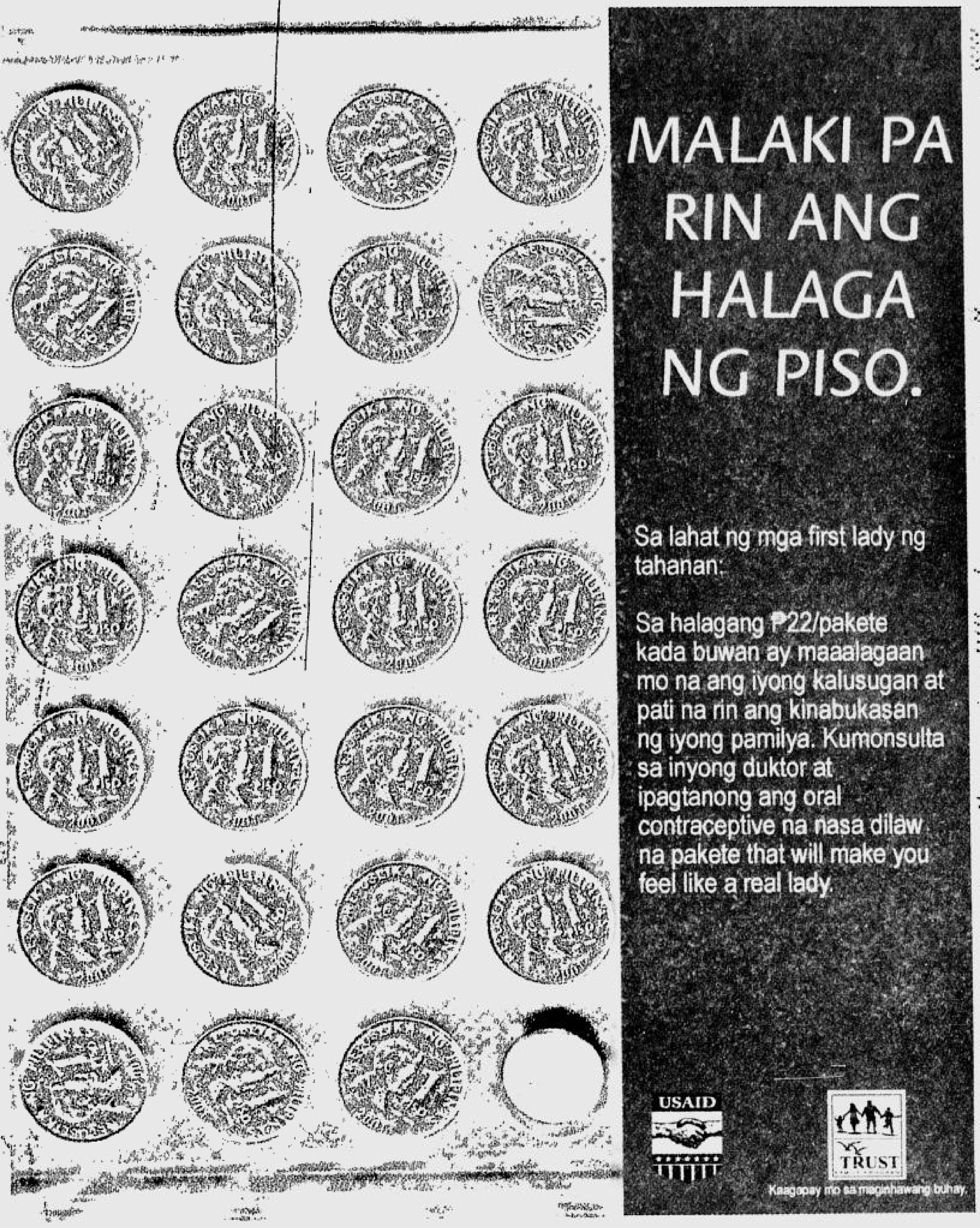

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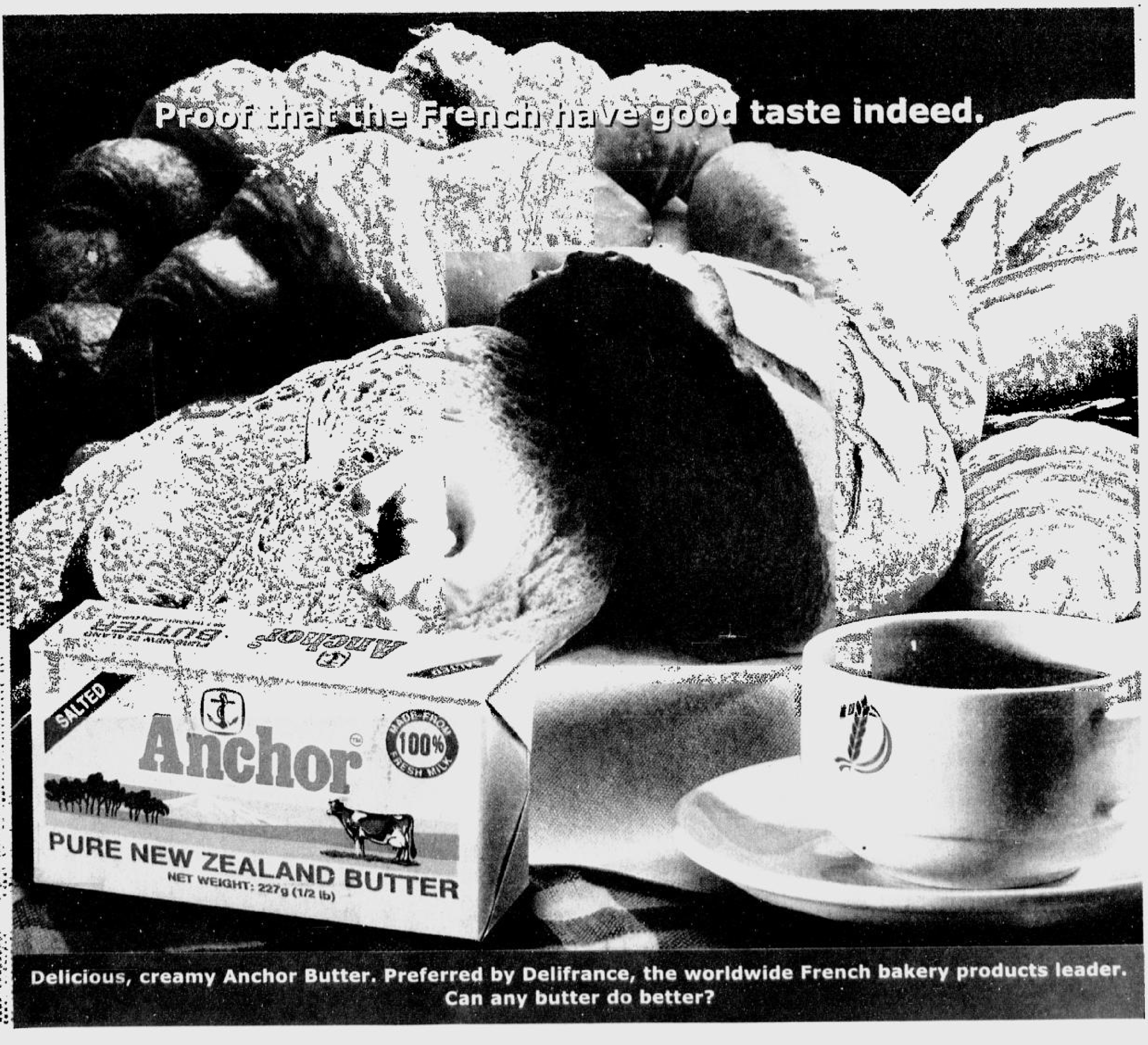

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THE COUPLE and their retinue

Shakespeare inspires *dream wedding*

By Walter Ang
Contributor

GUESTS at Elisa Sia and Melvin Lim's wedding entered the banquet hall by crossing a real wooden bridge. At the other end of the bridge, they were transported to a spectacular scene of stone walls, waterfalls and fountains, and a multitude of vibrant, exotic flowers. Four dancing ballerina fairies welcomed the guests.

The explosion of colors and textures were a stark contrast to the predominantly white wedding at the San Agustin Church. Even the newlyweds had no idea what the reception would look like as it was a surprise from the groom's brother, Michael.

As his gift to his brother, Michael coordinated and designed the whole wedding and reception. "I wanted to create a wedding like no other," he said. One of Manila's most in-demand wedding hosts, he has certainly seen weddings in all possible forms and figures. "Just last year I hosted 80 weddings. So I wanted my brother's wedding to be really memorable."

Michael added, "I picked Shakespeare's 'Midsummer Night's Dream' to unify the concepts in my head. I saw images of flowers and gardens [filled] with colors that were bright and fairy-like. You could say I used the postmodern paradigm of East blending with the West, because I wanted a Western wedding while still honoring my Chinese heritage."

THE BANQUET hall as a magical floral garden

THE COUPLE and their parents

Both newlyweds and their guests were spellbound by the magical setting for the reception

Amazing feat

Both guests and newlyweds had no idea that set designer Larry Natividad only had three hours to set up the impressive display because the venue was in use until a few hours before the wedding reception. But Natividad was able to accomplish the feat with aplomb, thanks to his crew of 25 professional bodybuilders. Florist Francis "Junjun" Hen came in afterwards to complete the magical world for the newlyweds and their guests.

The setting was only part of Michael's grand scheme. He also requested family friend Patis Tesoro, one of the *ninangs*, to design the clothes. "She really helped a lot in the realization of the theme," enthused Michael.

The bride wore an Indian sari with hand-painted gold flower detailing and lined with tulle, dyed apple green and fuchsia. Her bustier and gown had embroidery and beads.

Elisa is a full-time preschool teacher who sings at wedding receptions on weekends. It was in one of those singing gigs that she met her future husband, a sound engineer.

THE RADIANT bride

GOOFING off before the wedding

FOUNTAINS galore

SNEAKING a peck

Bridesmaids wore European chiffon custom tie-dyed in yellow, apple green, fuchsia and orange with a yellow duchess satin base. Principal sponsors also wore Tesoro's creations with the same color palette—the men in hand-painted barongs and the women in Mindanao pure silk.

Spellbound by the lavish display, most guests exclaimed afterwards that they really felt lost in a magical garden. One guest was even overheard saying, "*Parang* paradise *dito*!" Even the cake was a major production. The six-tier fondant cake created by Penk Ching of the Pastry Bin was a monumental showcase of baroque and plain styles. It was topped with a cornucopia shell to symbolize fertility and abundance for the new couple.

The brains behind it all couldn't have been happier. "I wanted an enchanting and magical day for Melvin and Elisa. What was in my mind's eye came out perfectly!" said Michael.

Perhaps divine intervention helped ensure the smooth flow of events. A feng shui master, analyzing the new couple's life paths, concluded their match was made in heaven.

THE GROOM'S brother Michael Lim with family friend Patis Tesoro

Chicago romance ends in Batangas wedding

PATRICIA "Pinky" Balinghasay, daughter of Jose and Lilia Balinghasay, exchanged marriage vows recently with Luis "Chug" Gamboa, son of Stephen and Rosemarie Banta, at the Chapel of Transfiguration in Caleruega, Nasugbu, Batangas.

The mid-morning high mass was officiated by Rev. Fr. Olegario Comeleran. Music was provided by The Madrigal Singers.

The lunch reception was held at the Main Lounge of the Tagaytay Midlands in Tagaytay City.

Florist Glen Remorca adorned the lounge with pink and periwinkle blue flowers in stoneware pots.

Penk Ching of Pastry Bin prepared a three-layer fondant cake in light blue hues. Highlight of the ceremony were the words of welcome and love from the newlyweds' siblings and an audio-visual presentation of the the groom's proposal several feet above the ground.

The couple is based in Chicago, Illinois.

Coordinating the event was Weddings by Victoria.

NEWLYWEDS Luis and Pinky

LUIS and Pinky with their parents, from left: Jose Balinghasay, Lilia Arcenas-Balinghasay, Rose Marie Vilar Banta and Stephen James Banta.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

H	A	R	D	■	M	O	A	N	S	■	A	N	T	I	■	M	I	S	E	R
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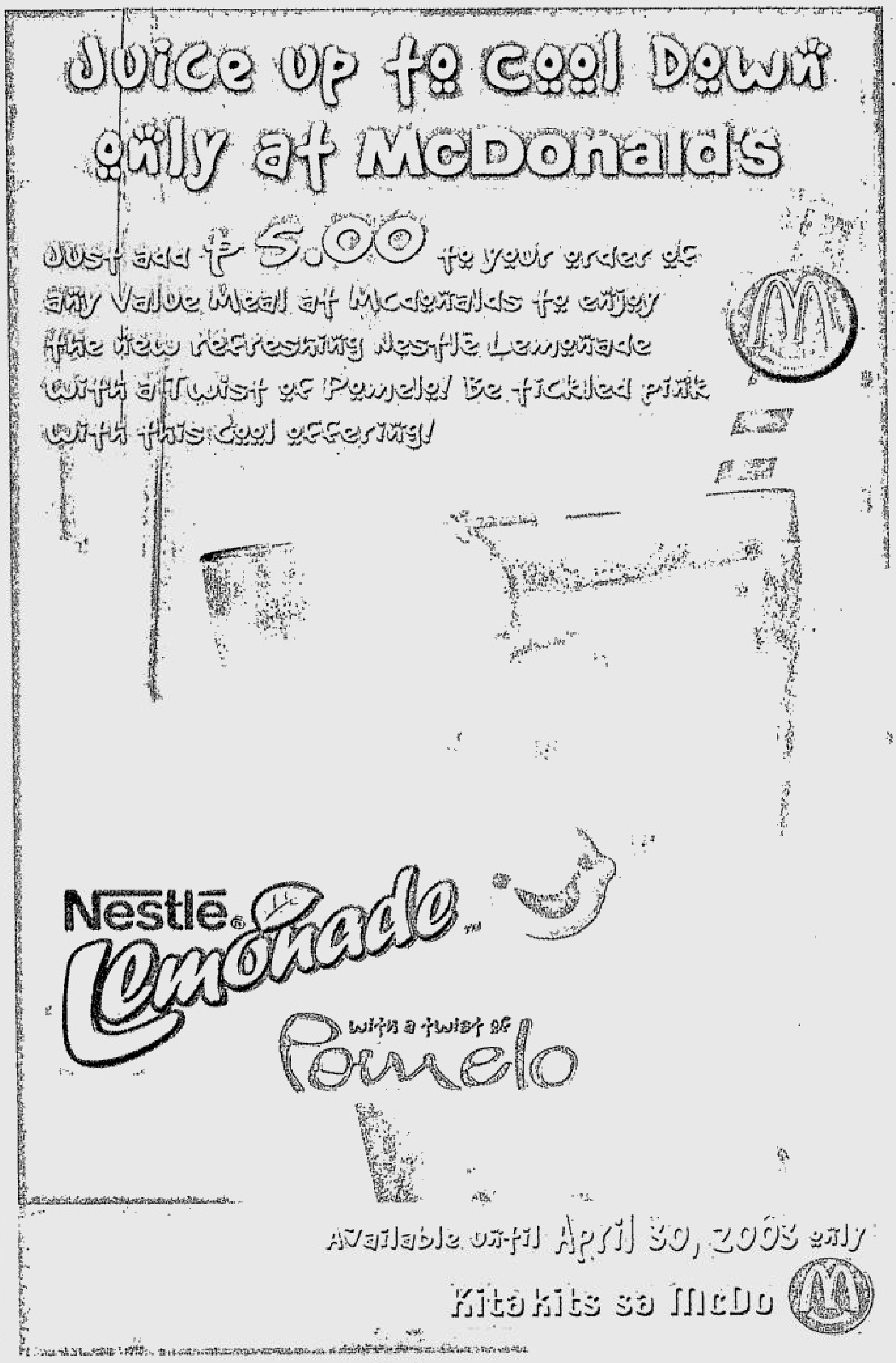

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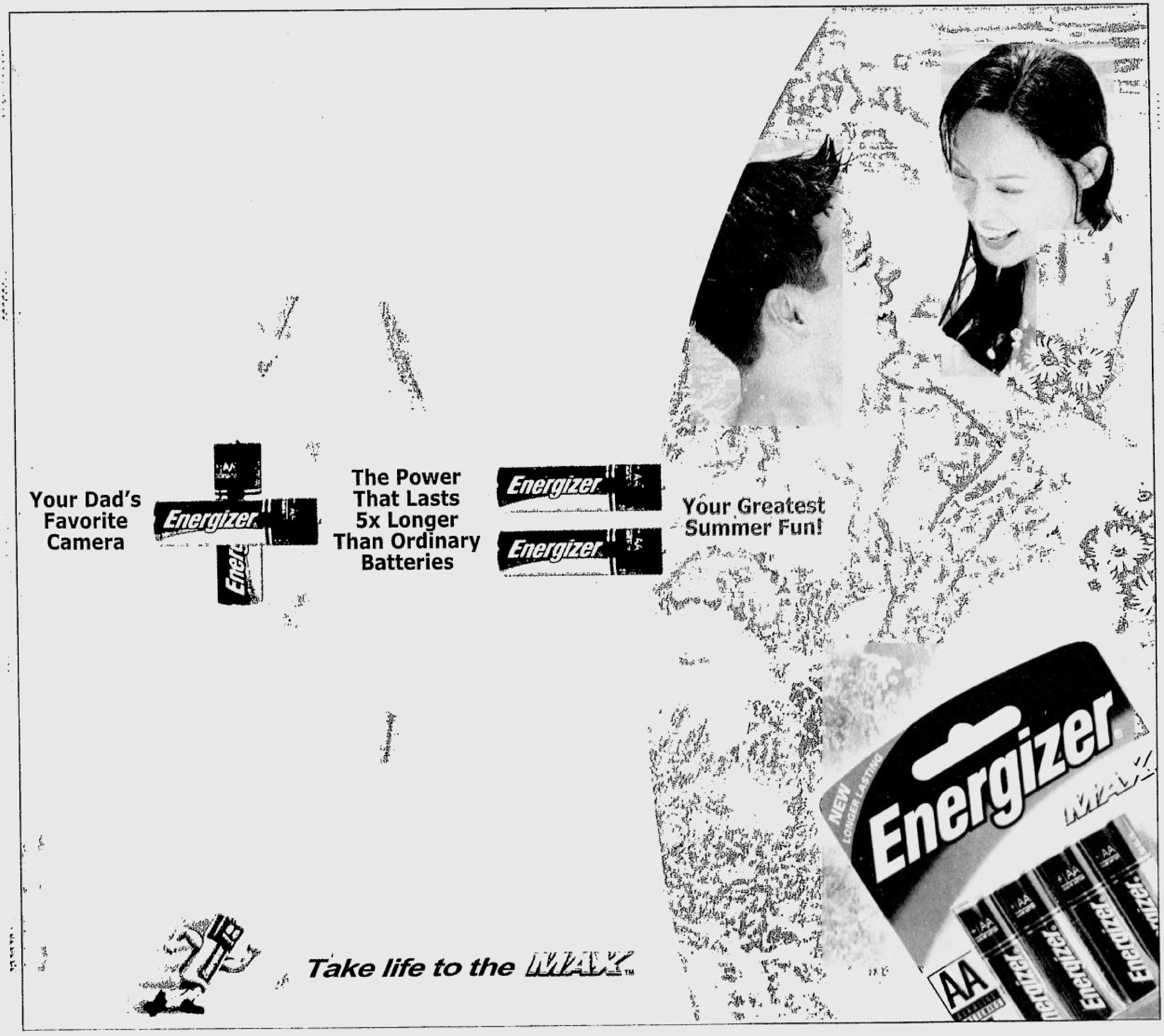

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Chicago romance ends in Batangas wedding

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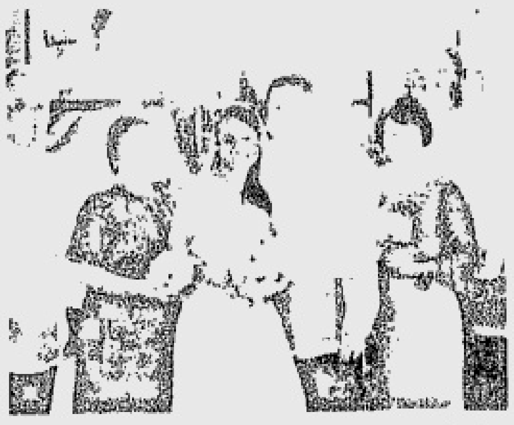
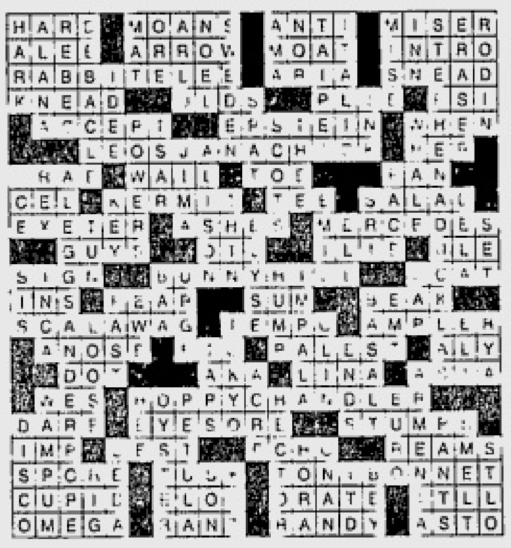
Coordinating the event was Weddings by Victoria.

NEWLYWEDS Luis and Pinky



LUIS and Pinky with their parents, from left: Jose Balinghasay, Lilia Arcenas-Balinghasay, Rose Marie Vilar Banta and Stephen James Banta.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD



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Just add ₱5.00 to your order of any Value Meal at McDonald's to enjoy the new refreshing Nestle Lemonade with a Twist of Pomelo! Be tickled pink with this cool offering!

Nestlé Lemonade with a twist of

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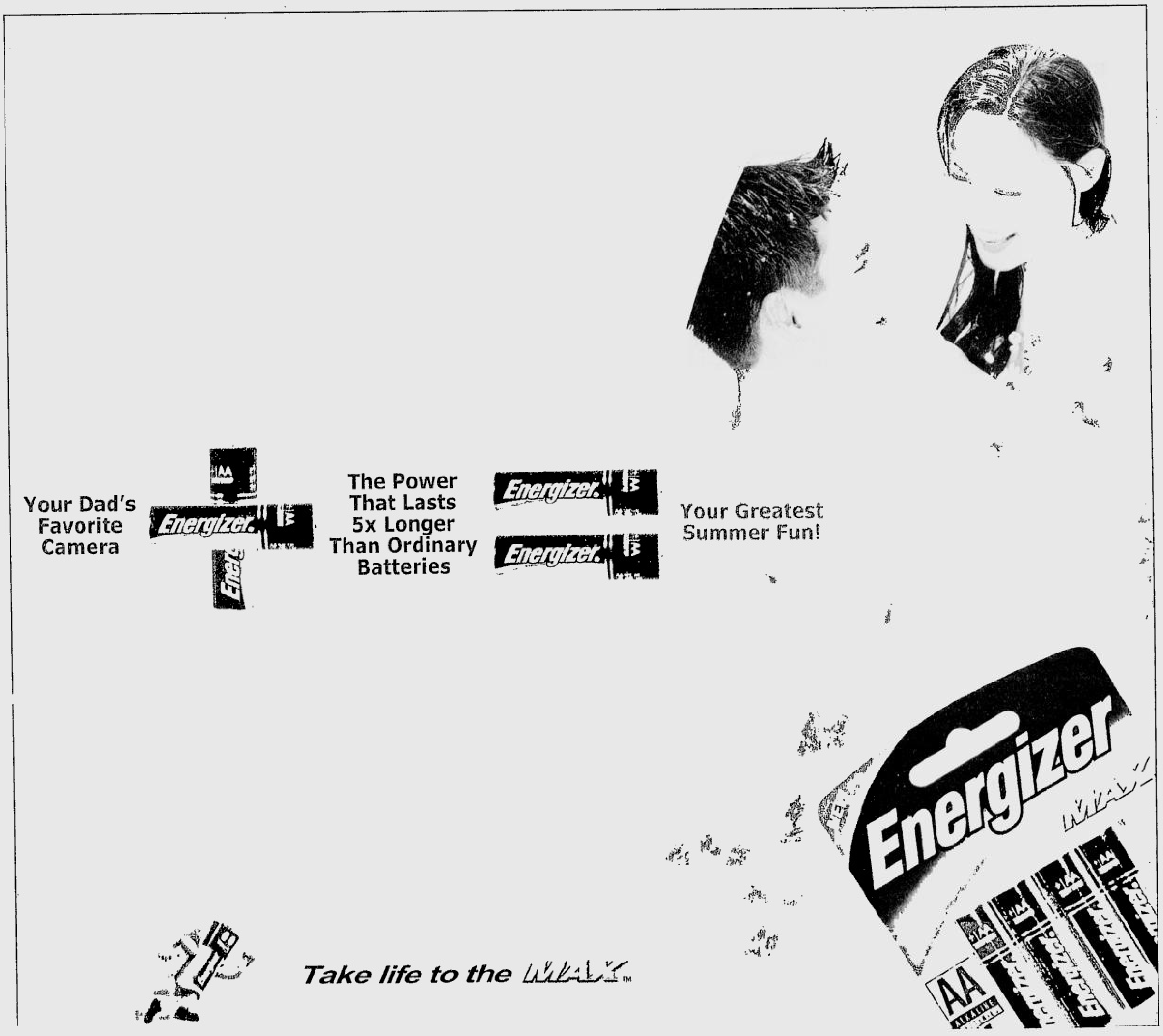
Kita kits sa McDo



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Your Greatest Summer Fun!

Take life to the MAX™

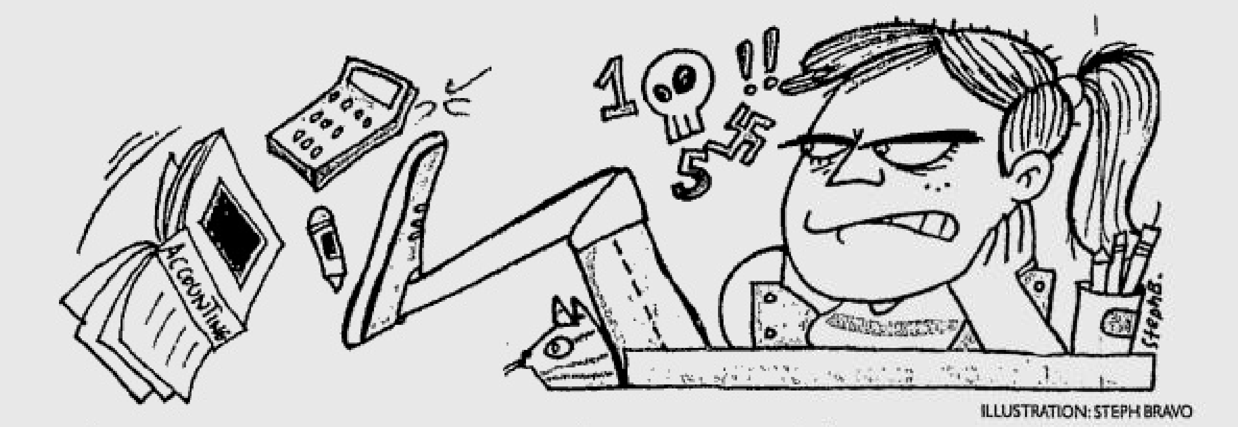

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

She wants another college course

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I'm a freshman in accounting. I took this course only because my parents wanted me to. But since my heart was not in it, I got grades that were lower than those required for my major subjects.

I have always wanted to take up Broadcast Communication or BS Mathematics, and I've applied for a transfer to another university because those courses are not offered in my school now. I feel I have a good chance of getting accepted there.

The problem is, I doubt very much if my parents will allow me to change my course. They always say I'm fickle-minded, but I've given their choice a try for a year and now I'm sure that it's not for me. How can I convince them?

RIA

If your grades don't qualify you to enroll in higher-level subjects for accounting majors, then your parents just have to allow you to shift.

So the issue is not really whether they'll let you shift (they have to), but how disappointed or angry they will be and how you can appease them. That might not be as big a problem as you fear it is. I can cite at least three factors that work in your favor.

First, parents are rarely 100 percent united in imposing a particular course or career on their child. One of them (usually the mother) does not really care much what course the child will take as long as the child is interested and happy with it. That means that it's very likely that you will have to appease only one parent. That cuts your burden by a half.

Secondly, the parent (let's say the father) who insisted on a particular course for the child is himself not 100 percent sure that he is right. He only "feels" that he is right, and that's because there is (so far) no proof that he is wrong. That means that as soon as you present such a proof (your disappointing grades, for instance), then he will have to admit his error.

And, third, I know no parent who'll reject his or her own child's pleas if those pleas are valid, honest and do not have obviously disastrous consequences. In my book, a shift to another course on a child's second year in college easily falls in that category.

As to their assessment that you are fickle-minded, they are probably right. Parents might not know every bit of their child's character, but they very, very seldom err about their child's decisiveness or lack of it.

Your case now, however, might really be an illustration of fickle-mindedness. You might be shifting your course, but you have not changed your mind: You wanted Broadcast Communication and BS Mathematics then, and you still want them now. "Fickle-minded"—or, more appropriately, "utter lack of direction"—is when you spend the next three or five years see-sawing between the two or flirting with a third.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

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HAVE an enchanted evening at Patio Victoria.

New venue for garden weddings, birthdays

PATIO Victoria at 5435 General Luna corner Victoria Streets, Intramuros, Manila, opened recently a new venue for weddings and debuts.

Garden weddings, debuts and other events can now also be held at Patio's Garden B which, like Garden A, can also accommodate 500 people. Both gardens have gazebos and tented areas. Additional tents can also be requested.

Garden weddings offer an atmosphere different from that in indoor venues.

Even a formal affair feels different when held under the moon and the stars, with a cool night breeze blowing.

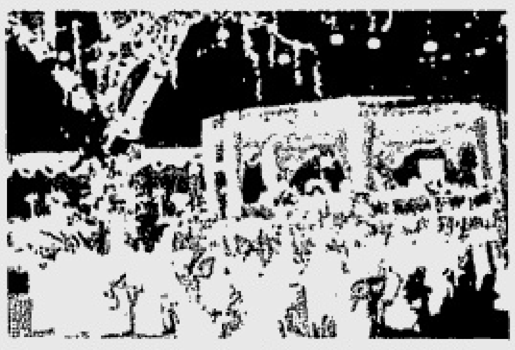
Patio Victoria president Cristina Gonzales-Romualdez said the gardens were designed to blend with the rest of Intramuros.

The Patio also has the Sophia Banquet hall, an indoor air-conditioned ballroom that can accommodate 150 guests or less. Other amenities include a secure parking space for 50 cars and a generator to provide full power within seconds in case of blackout.

Romualdez personally tastes every item on the Patio menu. An applicant cook has to prepare a meal for the Gonzales-Romualdez family as part of the pre-employment evaluation.

Patio Victoria has wedding packages to suit every budget. All packages include a choice menu, three-tiered wedding cake on a decorated table, a bottle of house wine for the ceremonial toast, wedding cage with doves, guest book with souvenir pen, red carpet for the bride and groom, special floral centerpieces for the buffet and guest tables, name and menu cards and use of the Cristina Executive Suite.

Call 527-8006, 523-6940 and 526-1953.



PATIO Victoria is the place for beautiful weddings and debuts.

EASTWOOD CITY WALK

An Everyday Feast for the Senses

Eye-popping, hypnotic, magical. Plunge into a place where there's so much to see, taste and enjoy. Treat yourself to a world of exhilarating sights. Whether you drink in the scenes from the ground level or take a bird's eye-view from the tower, let the city of a thousand lights dazzle you with its vivid nighttime glow. Where weekends and holidays find its outdoor cafes, alfresco dining places and lushly landscaped Central Plaza thick with savory gatherings that ring with the sounds of laughter and the music of pleasant conversations. Where flower-scented breezes mingle with the aroma of freshly-brewed coffee. Where the streets vibrate with captivating entertainment and magical rhythms. Where beautiful people abound—and life pulsates and throbs with a distinct energy that will leave you breathless.

Amoeba Music Recall
Bargo
Blue Onion
Cable Car
Café Via Mare
Celadon
Chicago Roadhouse
Country Waffles
Fazoli's
Ipanema
Jack's Loft
Kyo by Takayama
Macau
Mama Rosa
McDonald's
Montego
Mystic Grill
Nappa
Pho Hoa
Sari-Sari Cafeteria
Seattle's Best Coffee
Somethin' Fishy
The Basement
Tokyo Tokyo
Twist of Mingoy's
Via Mare Oyster Bar
West Lake

FASHION SQUARE
Gloss Designer Nails
Hairbytes Salon
Malu Veloso's Garden Room Cafe
MICO by Mia Urquico
The Flower Factory

Eastwood City Walk

Eastwood City,
E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue (C-5),
Quezon City

CABLE CAR
BIG KAHUNA

April Happenings at City Walk

All Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays of the month (except Holy Week)
StreetScapade starting at 7 PM
Street musicians, mime artists and magicians will go around City Walk for a one-of-a-kind outdoor entertainment.

April 10-15, Thursday to Tuesday
Discovery Channel Exhibit at Fashion Square Open Area
Marvel at a gallery of exclusive photos on travel, adventure, science and technology, natural history, animal planet and aviation.

April 20, Sunday
Easter Sunday Celebration at the Central Plaza Starting at 3 PM
Join the egg decorating contest and the traditional egg hunt for prizes and other surprises! Registration starts at 3 pm

Toy Festival Launch at the Central Plaza
- Beyblade and Crush Gear tournaments
- Pictionary competition
- Gundam exhibit
- Bratz look alike contest

April 27, Sunday
Beyblade Open Tournament at the Central Plaza Starting at 3 PM

Turn to
Section G
to get hooked

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Weddings & Engagements

BELEN-SILAN WEDDING

So in love in *New York*

By Donnie C. Ramirez
Contributor

NEWLYWEDS Lester and Brenda Belen

LESTER **Belen** and **Brenda Silan** trace their family roots to Pangasinan. Lester's parents, writer and occasional director **Leonardo "Nards" Belen** and entertainment editor **Crispina (nee Martinez) Belen** are from Asingan, while Brenda's parents, **Perpetuo** and **Brigida (nee Francisco) Silan**, hail from nearby Sta. Barbara. But the young couple's romance bloomed thousands of miles away, in New York, where they immigrated nearly 10 years ago.

Early last month, they flew back home to seal their love at simple matrimonial rites solemnized at the historic San Agustin Church in Intramuros. A dinner reception followed at the nearby Patio Victoria. For the bride, designer **Rudy Fuentes** created an elegant haltered gown of ivory white satin embellished with pearly beads. Fuentes, a longtime friend of the Belens, also did the groom's callado-ed Barong Tagalog and the dresses of the bridal entourage.

Sen. **Loren Legarda**, one of the principal sponsors, had to hire a helicopter to get to the church on time. Earlier that day, she was a *ninang* at another wedding in Tagaytay. The other sponsors were Rotary Gov. **Jose**

SO/ F2

LESTER and Brenda with their parents, Perpetuo and Brigida Silan and Crispina and Leonardo Belen

Dependent.
Rosanne Prieto
Socialite
Prepare to get hooked.

FRANK Evaristo, Crispina Belen, Evangeline Pascual, Eggpie Beltran, Rep. Willy Villarama, Tessie Villarama and Chad Borja

THE NEWLYWEDS with principal sponsors Lita Luga, Constancia Schreiner, Prudencia Silan, Sen. Loren Legarda, Baby Ortiz Tita Cruz and bride's mom Brigida Silan

So in love in New York

THE BRIDE with secondary sponsors Jillianne Mohammad, Adele Almontero, Mirasol Silan, Michelle Sampilo, Richelle Santos, Daisy Diego, Jennifer Pascual and flowergirls Agatha Beatrice Belen and Jessica Balacutan

From page F1

Morales, Lions Club Gov. **Leonida "Baby" Bayani-Ortiz, Rufo Mauricio, Lita Luga, Renato Ventigan, Prudencia Silan, Willy Lozano, Tita Cruz, Danny Velasco** and **Constancia Schreiner**. Best man was the groom's only brother **Walden** and maid-of-honor was the bride's cousin **Mirasol Silan**. Well-known artists **Nolyn Cabahug, Rogie Cabreza** and **Franco Laurel** sang at the church rites, while **Dulce, Chad Borja** and **Richard Merk** performed musical numbers at the reception.

The beautiful flower decorations were the handiwork of the groom's sister-in-law **Cathy Belen**, who was also the wedding coordinator.

Lester and Brenda honeymooned in Hong Kong and at the Fairways and Bluewaters Golf and Country Club and the Sun Village Resort in Boracay. Thereafter they flew back to New York where they have a home in Queens. Lester holds a communications arts degree from the Ateneo de Manila and a certificate in computer graphics from the Parsons School of Design in New York. Brenda was a nursing student prior to her family's immigration to the US. The couple works at the Quest Laboratory (formerly SmithKline).

To Lester and Brenda, cheers and wishes for a long and happy married life!

CORY Quirino (standing) with Donna Villa, Wiison Tieng and Rudy Fuentes

MOWELFUND executive director Boots Anson Roa with the newlyweds

LESTER and Brenda with guests Francisco and Becky de Liano, Q.C. Councilor Wilma Sarino, Janet Garcia and Mabel Abano

THE NEWLYWEDS with Bulakeño friends Bert Castro, Zeny Reyes, Chona Trinidad, Ofelia Trinidad, Vina Trinidad, Zeny Cabral, Joanne Salgado, Tess Castro, Lydia Reyes and Gene Reyes

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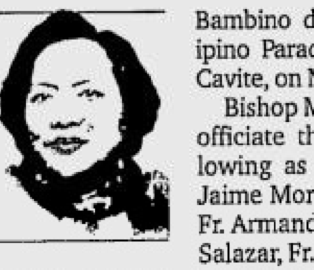
Boholanos come home to Tagbilaran to celebrate St. Joseph's feast

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang



AS we celebrate Easter today, we should reflect on the things we are grateful for, the most important of which is that we are alive. With the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead greeting us today, we pray: "Lord, thank you that we are alive. Thank you for dying for us on the Cross for we are now redeemed from sin."

Boholanos have a way of celebrating life by offering thanksgiving especially during the fiesta of their patron saint, St. Joseph, on May 1. They come from all over the world to visit Tagbilaran in fulfillment of a promise that they would come home and greet St. Joseph on his feast day.

When she was still in high school, Ursula Alturas Yu promised St. Joseph that she would go home every fiesta if she would be able to finish college and have a comfortable life later on.

Sol was a working student while finishing Bachelor of Science in Home Economics at the Far Eastern University. Born to a poor family, with her mother, Anatolia Pumatong Alturas, a market vendor, and her father, Flaviano Alturas, a bus conductor of the Boholan Transportation Company, Sol and her siblings needed to study hard and finish at least high school.

But Sol had dreams of finishing college. And off she went to Manila to enroll at FEU. She remembers that when she would need to pay her tuition, she would pray to St. Joseph in Cebuano and ask for help. The money always came.

Because of her good heart and a willingness to help others even if she only had little to give, Sol was blessed with a good life. She married businessman Primo Yu with whom she has three daughters: Ana who is a pediatrician; Maricar, a CPA, and Detdet, a psychologist.

Primo and Sol have a rice store in Paco. Their helpers are mostly Cebuano-speaking. Their house is called "house of the Lord" because they welcome fellow Boholanos who are waiting to work as seamen or relatives who are waiting to go abroad.

Sol's friends will go home to Tagbilaran on May 1. Like Sol, they have promises to keep. Expected to go home are Eddie Marfori, Rosita Pasta-Gil who lives in Washington; Dr. Cristeta P. Campbell from North Carolina; Dr. Rosemarie Soria; Lourdes Paras-Mamangon; Wilfreda Torralba Asuncion; Peregring Cabagnot Aumentado, wife of Gov. Enrico Aumentado; Purita Ramirez-Soliven and Tita Vissara Lapis, and engineer Cris Alturas from California.

Visiting St. Joseph Cathedral

I was blessed to have been able to visit St. Joseph Cathedral last April 2 when DeeDee Cloribel-Rodriguez brought me there. The Cloribel family comes from Panglao Island in Bohol.

I remember kneeling at a corner before the start of Holy Mass in the afternoon and looking up to St. Joseph, whispering prayers, asking for his help and thanking him for making it possible for me to go to Bohol for the first time.

Fr. Ted Torralba gave me a photocopy of the history of the church, which dates back to 1767 from the book on Bohol churches by Ricky Jose. The following day, Gardy Labad (formerly of Peta), executive director of the Boholano Foreign Friendship Foundation, gave me a copy of the book.

If not for Tweet Tweet Alturas, I would not have met his aunt, Ursula Alturas Yu, an intense devotee of St. Joseph. Sol inspired me to visit St. Joseph in Tagbilaran. During this pilgrimage, DeeDee brought me to Dauis church, Loboc, Baclayon and Panglao. More about them in a future column.

But as Teresa Wycoco Coloyan would affirm, St. Joseph is truly *magtatabang sa mga kinahanglan at kagulanan* (helper of the needy and the depressed). Tagbilaran Mayor Jose Torrelba was named after St. Joseph.

Bambino de Aracoeli

For the 12th straight year, the family of Dr. Romeo and Lourdes Echauz will hold a concelebrated Mass and *karakol* in honor of the Bambino de Aracoeli at the Filipino Paradise Complex in Naic, Cavite, on May 1 at 2 p.m.

Bishop Manuel Sobreviñas will officiate the Mass with the following as concelebrators: Msgr. Jaime Mora, Fr. George Morales, Fr. Armando Manaog, Fr. Ricardo Salazar, Fr. Nestor Abad, Fr. Louie Ninez and Fr. Jun Poblete.

'Guadalupe' at Cathedral

A digitalized laser copy of the original image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico will be enthroned at Manila Cathedral on April 22 at 7 p.m. The image is being donated by Cemex Philippines to mark the 50th year of Filipino-Mexican Diplomatic Relations. Representing Cemex its president Francisco Cue and corporate communications president Francisco Cue and corporate communications director Juris Umali-Soliman.

The Holy Mass will be officiated by Bishop Teodoro Buhain and concelebrated by Msgr. Nestor Cerbo, rector.

St. Expeditus feast

Since April 19, the feast of St. Expeditus has been on a Black Saturday, churches where St. Expeditus is venerated have moved the celebration to April 21, Easter Monday.

These churches include the Basilica Minora de Peñafrancia and the old church of Our Lady of Peñafrancia in Naga.

In Metro Manila, however, the Society of St. Expeditus will hold its Triduum of Masses on April 23, 24 and 25 at 6 p.m.

Holy Family Parish in Roxas District will mark the first year of the enthronement of St. Expeditus with a Mass on May 17 and a procession. Fr. Omer Prieto will say the Mass.

Gretchen Vergara e-mailed me from New York saying she was helped by St. Expeditus in getting her US visa, so she could finish her masteral course in a university there.

According to her, St. Expeditus is venerated in a church in Woodside, New York.

'Soledad' coronation

The Diocese of Imus will mark the 25th anniversary of the canonical coronation of Our Lady of Soledad of Porta Vaga with pilgrim visits to various churches. The image was canonically crowned on Nov. 18, 1978 by Apostolic Nuncio Bruno Torpigliani at the old San Roque Church in Cavite City.

The first church visited was Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Binakayan on March 22. Another activity was the enthronement of the icon in a side altar of the Imus Cathedral on April 15 by Bishop Chito Tagle.

The Cofradia de Nuestra Señora de la Soledad is spearheading the pilgrim visits. The group also formed the Tiples de la Soledad headed by choirmaster Arthur Medina, president of the Molino chapter of the Cofradia. The *tiples* (or "singers" in Spanish) come from the Julian Felipe Elementary School numbering 18.

The 311th anniversary of the enthronement of the icon of the Soledad was held April 12 with a Mass said by Fr. Virgilio Mendoza at San Roque Church. The Sto. Niño de Molino grand choir sang Spanish Mass songs.

Blessed Calungsod from Cebu

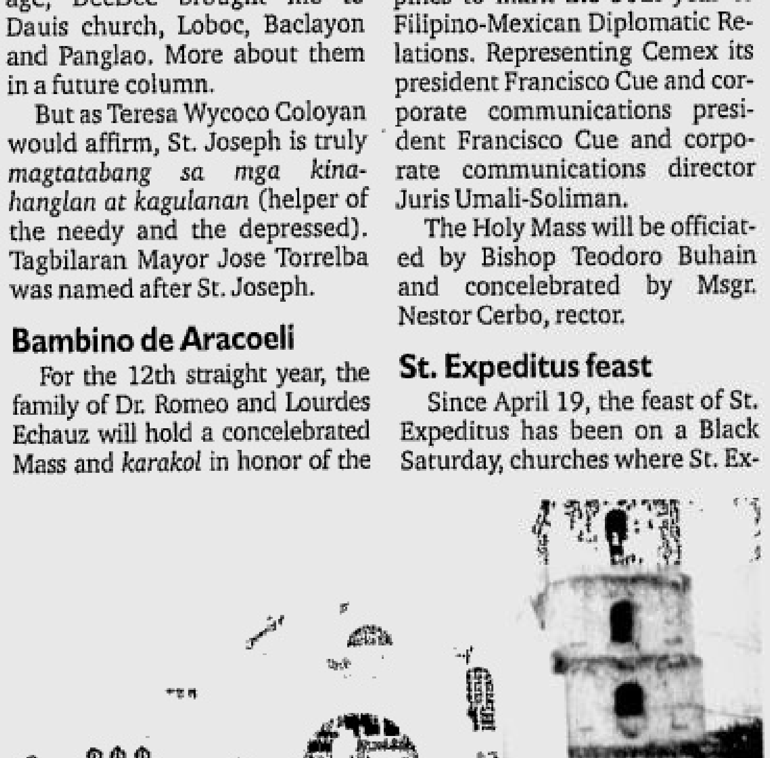
In my visit at St. Peter Parish in Loboc, Bohol, it was cleared once and for all that Blessed Pedro Calungsod was born in Hinatilan, Cebu, and not in Loboc. Museum curator Alfonso Varquez told me that Pedro came to Loboc to study catechism under Fr. Diego Sanvictores, S.J.

The parish priest, Fr. Desiderio Magdoza, told me that the parish was marking his feast on April 5 with a solemn High Mass celebrated by Bishop Leopoldo Tumulak with the following concelebrants: Fr. Msgr. Cirilo Darunday, Fathers Jose Sumampong, Ted Torralba, Magdoza, Alger Angcla and Israel Agusto.

The Loboc church is 401 years old and has two patrons: St. Peter the Apostle and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

A 16-year-old sacristan, Miguel de Ayatumo, whose life was written by Fr. Josemaria Luengo, led a holy life and the cause of his beatification is being considered to be submitted to Rome.

Testimonies of miracles through his intercession are being gathered. For more details about this, please write to Fr. Desiderio Magdazo at St. Peter the Apostle Parish in Loboc, Bohol.



BOHOLANOS and devotees gather in St. Joseph Cathedral on the May 1 fiesta.

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

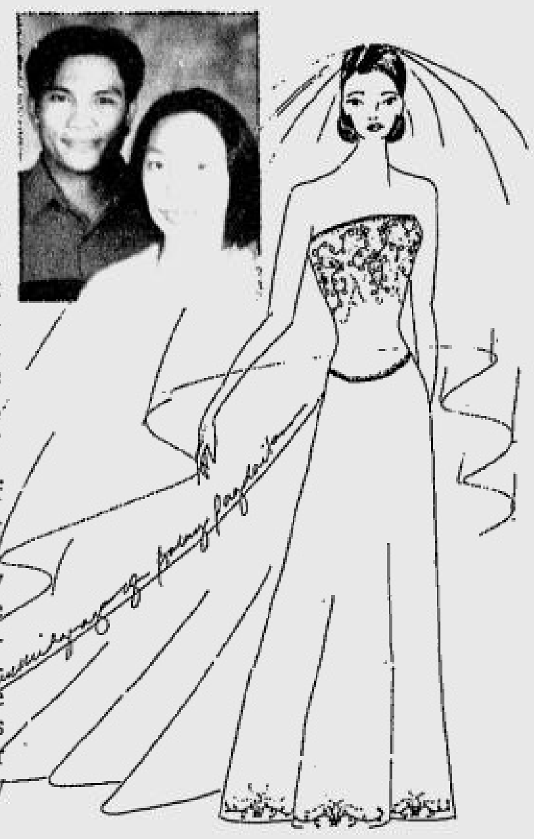
AVENTURA-TAN

Dr. Avenilo L. Aventura Jr., son of **Dr. Avenilo** and **Natividad Aventura**, (right), wed **Dr. Emily A. Tan**, daughter of **Tan Suy Guan** and **Nita Aquilino-Tan** (left), at the Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park. Reception followed at the Le Pavilion, Metropolitan Park, Roxas Blvd. The wedding gown was made by **Patis Tesoro**. The newlyweds are both graduates of the University of Santo Tomas College of Medicine and Surgery.

BUTAC-MUSNI

Alfredo Nonog Butac Jr., son of **Alfredo** and **Enrica Butac**, will tie the knot with **Mylene Ibnohassan Musni**, daughter of **Danilo** and **Mirriam Musni**, on May 17, 9 a.m. at Our Lady of Atocha Parish. Reception will be held at the Musni residence, Caloocan, Alicia, Isabela.

Rolly Graza of Balay Pagdaitan created the bridal gown a two-piece ivory gown of duchesse satin and a detachable train, accentuated with intricate beadwork, cut glass beads. She will wear a headpiece by Mikhael Accessories.



BELLEZA 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Omping and **Anda Belleza** of Goa, Camarines Sur, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary tomorrow (April 21).

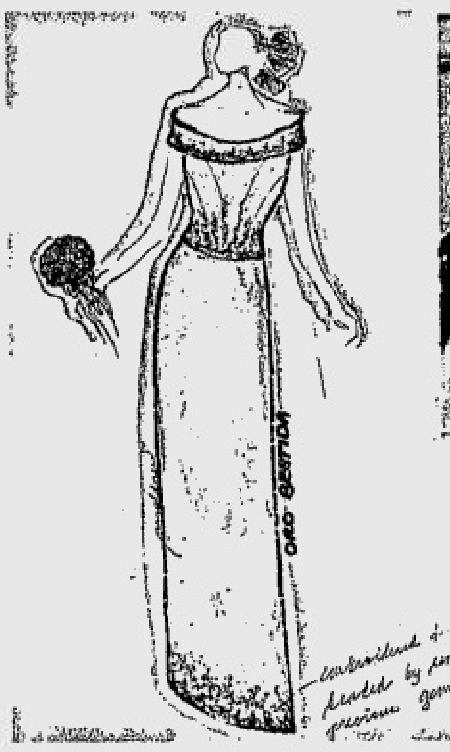
ABEJARON-BRUCAL

Albert Cruz Abejaron, son of **Tertuliano** and **Elizabeth Abejaron**, will wed **Emily Rose Soriano Brucal**, daughter of **Isabelo** and **Remedios Brucal** (deceased), at 4:30 p.m., May 8, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Ma-a, Davao City.

The bride's gown was designed by **Rose U. Soriano**.

DELA CRUZ-MANGAHAS

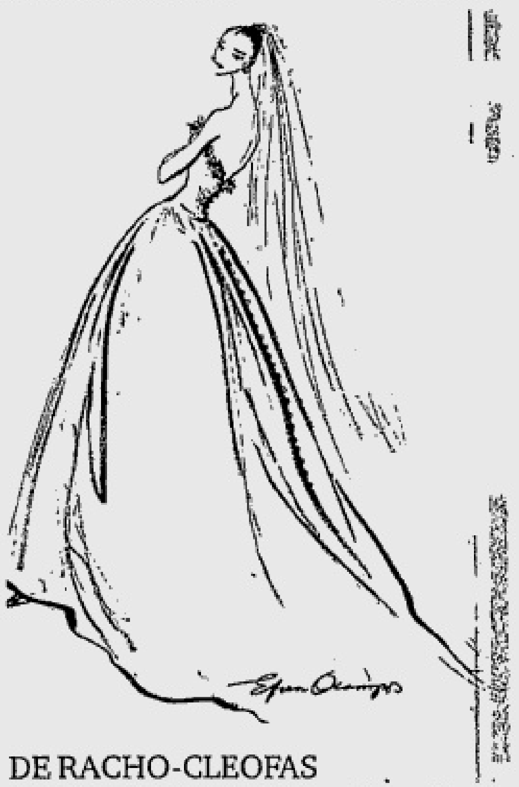
Lawyer **Omar Y. dela Cruz**, son of **Boy Leoncio** and **Aida dela Cruz**, tied the knot with lawyer **Digna M. Mangahas**, daughter of lawyer **Conrado** and **Elena Mangahas** on April 5 at the Hearts of Jesus and Mary Parish, Daily Mirror Street, West Triangle, Quezon City. Reception was held at the Quezon City Sports Club, E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., Quezon City. The bridal gown was designed by **Malu Veloso**.


ORO BESTIDA
embroidered & beaded by semi-precious gems

VALENTIN 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Boy and **Jane Valentin** will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary with a renewal of marriage vows on April 24 at the San Isidro Labrador Parish Church. Reception will follow at Casa Real, The VIP Hotel, Cagayan de Oro City.

Jane will wear a gown designed by **Arnold Neri** of Oro Bestida.



DE RACHO-CLEOFAS

Cecille Cleofas will wear an **Efren Ocampo** gown when she weds **Ariel de Racho**, 4 p.m., April 26, San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila. The gown, made of faille, has guipure lace on the bodice sprinkled with Swarovski crystals for adornment. Reception will follow at Patio Victoria.

TURLA - BUNYOG

Ronald Allan Turla and **Eloise Bunyog**, with the blessing of their parents, **Edgar Bunyog** and **Rolando** and **Marilou Turla**, repsectively, exchanged wedding vows Mar. 29. The ceremony and reception were held at the gardens of Cassanova Drive, Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

User.
Derek Ramsey
Model
Prepare to get hooked.

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GRAND DRAW PRIZES

1st PRIZE: Grand Vibestyle Package

- **Weekend getaway for 4 to Boracay**
- **Roundtrip plane ticket for 4**
- **P100,000.00 cash tax free**
- **NEO QNOTE Starter Notebook**
- **Canon portable printer and scanner**
- **Microsoft software**
  - **Windows XP Home Edition**
  - **Microsoft Office XP Standard Edition**
  - **Microsoft software games**

2nd PRIZE: Watersports Package

- **Aqua adventure to Bohol Beach Club for 3**
- **Roundtrip plane tickets for 3**
- **P30,000.00 worth of Nike products**
- **P6,000.00 worth of Penshoppe swimwear**
- **One unit of Palm Zire**

3rd PRIZE: Mall Spree Package

- **Weekend stay at a 5 star hotel for 4**
- **P30,000.00 worth of Penshoppe products**
- **Free movie and Time Zone passes for 4**
- **P8,000.00 worth of Nike products**
- **One unit Palm Zire**

WEEKLY PRIZES

- **P2,000.00 worth of Nike products and P2,000.00 worth of Penshoppe products**

Instant freebies for every approved plan subscription:

- **1 month free (to be credited to the 2nd month billing)**
- **Free Level Up cd with 1 month free Oz World gaming**
- **Free/discounted NIIT web courses**

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   b. On-line application to www.pldtvibe.com;
   c. Visit to any PLDT Business Office.
2. Approved new plan subscribers get the following instant freebies:
   a. Plan 20 (20 consumable hours, P550/mo):
      i. 1 month free (free month to be credited on the second month billing);
      ii. 1 free Level Up starter CD with one month Oz World free gaming;
      iii. Discounted NIIT web courses.
   b. Plan 45 (45 consumable hours, P1100/mo)
      i. 1 month free (free month to be credited on the second month billing);
      ii. 1 free Level Up starter CD with one month Oz World free gaming;
      iii. Free NIIT basic web course.
3. New plan subscribers instantly get computer-generated raffle entry/ies to the Gadgets and Gimmicks promo. Number of raffle entry/ies depend on the plan type availed:
   a. Plan 20 – 1 raffle entry
   b. Plan 45 – 2 raffle entries
4. New and existing subscribers (Post Paid Plan and Pay-Per-Surf) may increase their Vibe entry/ies by referring friends to subscribe to PLDT Vibe Plan. They just have to log on to www.pldtvibe.com, click on the icon that will link them to referral page. They have to put in their friend's name, e-mail address and PLDT phone number. Every approved online referral earns them an additional Vibe entry.
5. Only entries received until May 30, 2003, 7:00pm are qualified to join.
6. Raffle entries will be drawn electronically. Draw will be held in PLDT's Main Office in Ramon Cojuangco Bldg., Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City in the presence of a DTI representative.
7. There will be five weekly draws and a grand draw scheduled as follow:

April 28 (Monday)	1st weekly draw
May 5 (Monday)	2nd weekly draw
May 12 (Monday)	3rd weekly draw
May 19 (Monday)	4th weekly draw
May 26 (Monday)	5th weekly draw
May 31 (Saturday)	Grand Draw

8. Non-winning entries per draw still qualify for the succeeding weekly draws and grand draw.
9. An applicant can only win once in a draw. If a name wins more than once, he gets the bigger prize.
10. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash.
11. All prizes are tax free.
12. GMA winners may claim their prize from PLDT's Marketing Services at the 5th floor of Ramon Cojuangco Bldg. Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City. To claim the prizes, they must present valid ID and notification letter. For provincial winners, PLDT will send their respective prizes to their address via courier.
13. Gift certificates are valid for one (1) year from date of issuance.
14. Redemption period for the prizes will be 60 days from notification.
15. Prizes not claimed after 60 days will be forfeited.

See flyers and posters for more details. Per DTI-NCR permit # 1644 series of 2003.

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE

SMART
Simply Amazing!
105412

105412
SMART HOBIE CAT AMAZING RACE
FAMOUS VOYAGE 4

SMART'S Hobie Cat Racers

Sundrenched and famous in Boracay

From the exciting Smart International Hobie Cat Challenge to the Salomon Adventure Race, a partyphile survives the merriment and wants more, more, more

By Delia Dans
Contributor

NOW that it's vacation season, I'm sure we'll be hearing a lot about partying on the beach. I recently did just that, *liebchens*, on the cliché-beautiful island of Boracay, where else?

As you know,I only party with the best. And this time, I did just that. I was in the company of the beautiful and famous, "Smart Famous The Voyage Party 4," to be exact.

For those not in the know, "Famous" is the traveling party that simply takes the guests and the merriment wherever it goes. "Famous" has been partying in Hong Kong, Vietnam, China, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and on the high seas. And of course, where it all started–Boracay.

SUNDRENCHED/ G6

zed CHALLENGE
FAMOUS VOYAGE 4

ZED Challenge winners Bianca Valerio, Luke Jickaine, Mikee Carreon and Cesar Alex cross the finish line.

The New Crossroads in Philippine Telecommunications

An epochal event for the Philippine telecommunications industry happened last April 2 at Shangri-La Makati – the meeting of three major movers in the Asian telecommunications industry to promote the Microsoft-powered SMART Amazing Phone. Representing Microsoft was General Manager for Asia-Pacific Network Service Providers, Ken Wye Saw. SMART was represented by CEO Napoleon L. Nazareno and PCMSD Head Anastacio R. Martirez. The agenda was to simply celebrate the exclusive partnership and discuss mutual initiatives.

The Smart Amazing Phone, which uses the Windows operating system, was launched last month amid much enthusiasm amongst both celfone and Microsoft aficionados, as it is essentially a product that marries both the former and the latter into one aesthetically attractive package.

It is a fine time to be a tech-savvy mobile phone user because this partnership between the Philippines' leading service provider and one of the most respected IT companies in the world, signals a boon for the local consumer. People in the Philippines can now enjoy cutting-edge services and the most up-to-date technology anywhere in the world.

The SMART Amazing Phone is powered by Microsoft Windows which brings a host of features never before seen in the local market. The features include Internet Explorer, Windows Media Player, MSN Messenger, SMART movie messaging and video streaming, and also syncs with your personal computer so you can download your e-mail, contacts and schedule from Outlook.

Not only is the Amazing Phone subscriber rewarded with the functionality and familiarity of the Microsoft operating system which everyone is used to, the Amazing Phone is also tri-band, has a 65,000 color screen, comes with a detachable camera, lithium ion battery and much, much more.

Founded in 1975, Microsoft (Nasdaq "MSFT") is the worldwide leader in software, services and Internet technologies for personal and business computing. The company offers a wide range of products and services designed to empower people through great software -- any time, any place and on any device.

Incorporated in 1991, Smart Communications Inc. (SMART) is the Philippines' leading wireless services provider with over 9 million subscribers as of February 2003.

SMART combines its digital Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) technology and its satellite telephony (using the Global Mobile Personal Communications by Satellite technology of ACeS Philippines) for unparalleled coverage and connectivity.

It has also been continuously innovating on wireless technology, having introduced world-first services, in the fields of mobile commerce and value-added services.

Left to right: General Manager for Asia-Pacific Network Service Providers, Ken Wye Saw. SMART was represented by CEO Napoleon L. Nazareno and PCMSD Head Anastacio R. Martirez.

Many addictions.
Rosanne Prieto
basketball addict
Paolo Trillo
music addict
Derek Ramsay
car addict
Katrina Tantoco
shopping addict

GREGGY
gadget addict
TESSA
make-up addict
DOM
party addict
MIMI
tennis addict
KONRAD
computer addict
MIKEY
audio addict
PIA
diving addict
WOWIE
fitness addict
MELISSA
food addict
SHY
video addict
MON
sports addict
PIA
love addict
GIRLIE
gym addict
VAN
fashion addict
JEC
movie addict
Open to find your addiction.

One fix.

The revolutionary custom content powered post-paid cellphone service

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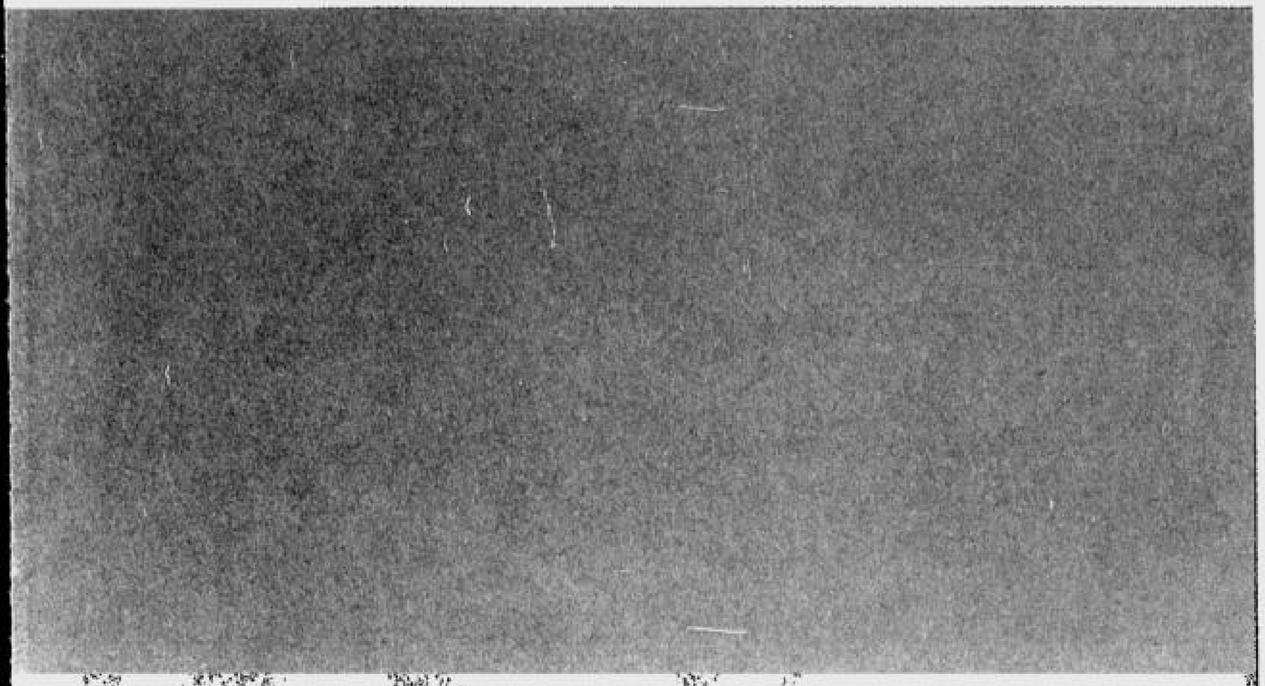


Rejoice. The ultimate fix has finally arrived.

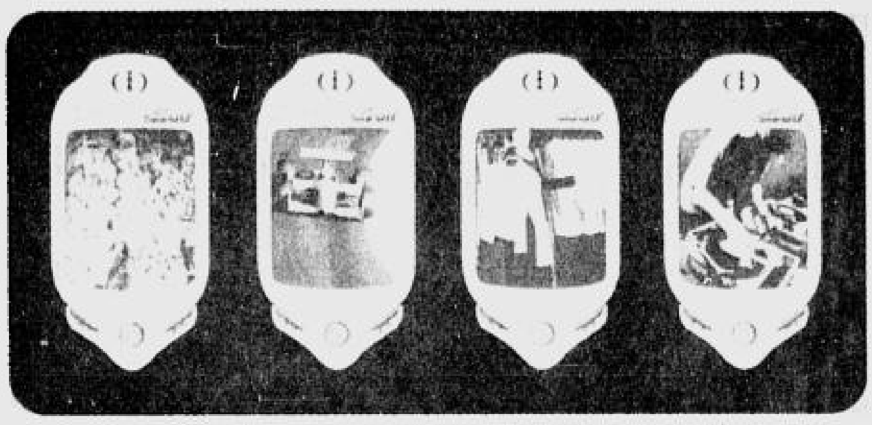
Introducing Addict Mobile.

The advanced multimedia-powered GSM service from SMART that takes your addictions past the edge and back – on a sense-shattering thrill ride. Addict Mobile lets you receive instant custom content on news, sports, shopping, entertainment, health and fitness, travel and more with virtually no effort.

Just imagine it... Your needs. Your cravings. Your desires. Pushed directly to your mobile phone, minus the clutter from stuff you don't want!

Show me the goods.

Take a gander at the content Addict Mobile can push to you.



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Addict Mobile's MMS Info on Demand service platform takes multimedia messaging to new heights – providing you with images, music, and sound clips for an immersive experience like no other! Mind you, what you see isn't even half of what the service can do, and you can bet there's even more on the way.

It's a mind-blowing deal!

MMS Info on Demand for as low as P5.00 per download!

Let's face it. Surfing via Mobile Internet is great, but why waste time and cash needlessly exploring for what you want? With Addict Mobile's MMS Info on Demand technology, you simply select your addictions, sit back, and let the system do the rest! From then on, Addict Mobile knows exactly what you want, and serves it to you straight up for as low as P5.00 per download! Compare that to what you'd spend if you had to look for the info yourself.

Customized to addiction.

Who says you can't have it your way? With Addict Mobile, you can!

Addict Mobile is fully customizable, giving you the freedom to create a service environment that's centered exclusively on your addictions. So if you're a basketball addict, you receive content like the latest game scores, news, schedules and highlights without the fuss! What's more, you can reconfigure your system settings anytime, granting you complete control over the content you can receive from Addict Mobile.

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Amazed? Well, you haven't seen anything yet until you've seen Addict Mobile's great monthly plans:**

Every Addict Mobile plan includes free call minutes that are renewed every month!

addict	500	600	800	1335	1995	2665	3500
Monthly Service Fee	P500	P600	P800	P1,335	P1,995	P2,665	P3,500
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

* Applicable only to Addict Mobile-to-SMART or Addict Mobile-to-Addict Mobile calls.

In addition to your Free Minutes, your Addict Mobile plan also includes a monthly Maximum Consumable allocation for SMS, MMS and GPRS usage! Now, you can let all your addictions take you even higher.

addict	500	600	800	1335	1995	2665	3500
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SMS Messaging	P1.00						
MMS Messaging	P5.00						
SMS Info On Demand	P2.50						
MMS Info On Demand	P5.00						
MMS Personalization	P15.00						
GPRS (per kb)	P0.25						

Your Maximum Consumable allocation allows you to send, access or download at no extra charge. Should you exceed your monthly allocation, you will be charged fees that correspond to the services you availed. A detailed breakdown of your availments will appear in your next billing statement.

Once you're high, there's no coming down.

Addict Mobile knows exactly what you want, and gives you exactly what you need, utilizing the latest technological advancements to strengthen the bonds between you and your addictions. So while every mobile service talks about you getting in touch with others, only Addict Mobile encourages you to get in touch with yourself.

Addict Mobile, Get Hooked.

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YELLOW Adidas celebrity volleyball team Nicolette Bell, Robby Mananquil, Rovilson Fernandez and Monchu Gonzales

RED Adidas Celebrity Volleyball Team Richie Santos, Alyann Martine, Paolo Bediones and Miko Palanca

SPORTS Unlimited's Marc Nelson and Dyan Castillejo with Salomon Team

Sundrenched and famous in Boracay

From page G1

I'm ecstatic, *liebchens*, that I finally fit "Famous" into my frantic schedule (don't you just love alliteration!). My absolutely dearest friend, **Keren Pascual**, has been telling me to come along but, alas, no rest for the weary. This latest leg of "Famous" was perfect, actually, since I'd been dying to soak up some sun in this Pervinca Athens bikini–what a steal!–that's been in my closet for ages.

So we hied over to Boracay straight into the air-conditioned bliss of the Boracay Regency. After dumping my luggage, I changed into my bikini and went out for a few hours of sun and sea.

Sheer bliss, *schatzis*, sheer bliss. I positively glowed that evening for the "Nivea White Latin Nights," held at the beachfront, *natch*. I have to admit, I did look the Greek goddess in that ethereal white dress I unearthed from Baguio's *ukay-ukay*.

"Latin Night," cohost **JM Rodriguez** didn't look bad either. My newfound friends from Nivea, **Rica King, Belle Ortega** and **Ida Dizon** gave us all sunny yellow tote bags of Nivea Sun products.

ACTOR Diether Ocampo preparing for the big race

DJ Jon Herrera aka Johnny Verse mixing it up

Summer fashion

After Nivea, Cinderella presented the latest summer collections from U2 and Esprit. *Natch*, *schatzis*, lovely summer outfits. I really love those light materials. Perfect for the heat waves we regularly get in our country.

Though we all loved a good party, we conscientiously remembered that tomorrow was an early day, so we didn't party till sunrise this time.

Saturday dawned and our daring sailors set out to conquer the deceptive Boracay waters and winds in the pulse-quickening Smart International Hobie Cat Challenge.

I must say I feel slightly sheepish–I got so carried away with the cheering, believe me, my dearies, if there was a prize for the best cheerleader, I would have won it hands down.

Sand-pounding

My fave sports brand Adidas had two sand-pounding activities that made fellow "Famous" guests really work it. After all, it's no easy task to run around in the powder like sand, *liebchens*. So the Adidas Celebrity Beach Volleyball Competition and the Celebrity Soccer Showdown were sights to behold. Though I cheered for them all, someone had to win, you know. For volleyball it was the spiking experts who got the cake: **Paolo Paraiso, Uriah Van Der Bos, Rissa** and **Allan Reyes**. As for soccer, **Paolo Bediones, Richie Santos, Rovelson Hernandez, Diether Ocampo, Chinggay, Bobby Asanin** and Allan Reyes knocked more goals in than the competition, so what can I say?

DAVIDOFF'S Boracay Best Bodies Marzo and Rissa Samson

MODEL Bianca Valerio in Esprit

Not all the games were as serious and high-octane, though.

Salomon and Zed had zany contests that had us rolling in laughter and rolling in sand. **Pepper Teehankee** was a sight to behold after rolling across the sand for the Salomon Adventure Race. Even his partner, the svelte **Tricia Cu-Unjieng**, had a blast. Chinggay definitely led the pack. She conquered the Salomon Adventure Race, with partner Richie Santos. All that kickboxing definitely paid off!

Zany races

The Zed Challenge, on the other hand, had teams running around the island racing against time and each other to solve clues. It was a hilarious sight seeing the debonair **Philip Cu-Unjieng** trying to get a pedicab through the sand! But a pack of models conquered this one: **Cesar Alex, Luke Jickane, Bianca Valerio** and **Mikey Carrion.**

You'd think after all that sundrenched activity, no one would have energy left for nighttime partying. But *liebchens*, it's amazing what a long shower can do. I felt girlishly pretty in my bright red sun dress (from Plenty, if you must know) and all set for "Tropical Night Fever."

Davidoff Cool Water–don't you absolutely adore that scent, *liebchens*? There's nothing more alluring than a man who smells that fresh!—had a slightly racy Boracay's Best Body competition, which the lovebirds among the contestants won hands down. Need we ask which ones? It even seems like a family lock-out, now that I think about it. **Rissa Samson** and husband **Marzo** won the game, while brother **Robby Mananquil** and paramour **Nicolette Bell** got special mention for Most Intimate Couple, whatever that means. Am I being catty, *schatzis*? Forgive me.

At any rate, it was an amazing party that followed. This time, I partied till dawn, *liebchens*. I can't wait for the next "Famous the Voyage Party." It simply pays to be famous! Ta-ta, *schatzis*!

A Resounding Success:

SMART mms

@ The Podium

The evolution of the cellular phone continues. If there was any doubt to this statement, the recent activities at The Podium at the Ortigas Center put those arguments to rest. From March 1 until April 13, 2003, SMART MMS @ The Podium was the talk of the town as people got to avail of the latest in mobile technology. With booths on both the 2nd and 5th levels of the mall, everybody rushed to avail of SMART's unbelievable deals that practically gave the phones away for free!

The highlight of the events was undoubtedly the launch of the SMART Amazing Phone. Giving users real-time Internet access using a light version of the user friendly Microsoft OS, the Amazing Phone was the talk of the town. Guests at the Podium were clearly impressed by the fact that the same Internet Explorer that runs on their home computers and laptops was essentially the same as what they experienced on the SMART Amazing Phone. The SMART Amazing Phone after all, is the latest rave in new handsets with its sleek looks, wide maxi-colored screen and "lite" version of the Microsoft Windows Operating System.

Whether it was the formal launch of SMART MMS for Manila's business elite last March 12, the grand event and raffle for the SMART Amazing Phone held for the audience at Elbow Room last March 19, or people just dropping by the booths aching to switch to SMART, the whole extravaganza was a sight to behold.

This of course is the impact and growing popularity of MMS or Multimedia Messaging in daily mobile communications. Pictures in phones are now becoming the accepted norm. SMART goes even further, bringing you sound to go along with your videos, in effect, full video messaging. Add to that such unique services as SMART Poly Tones, Traffic Shots, and Fun Pix, and you've got yourself a complete multimedia experience right in the palm of your hands.

If you weren't able to troop to The Podium during this run, never fear. SMART and SMART MMS will continue to provide affordable means for you to have access to the hottest technology around today. So just stay

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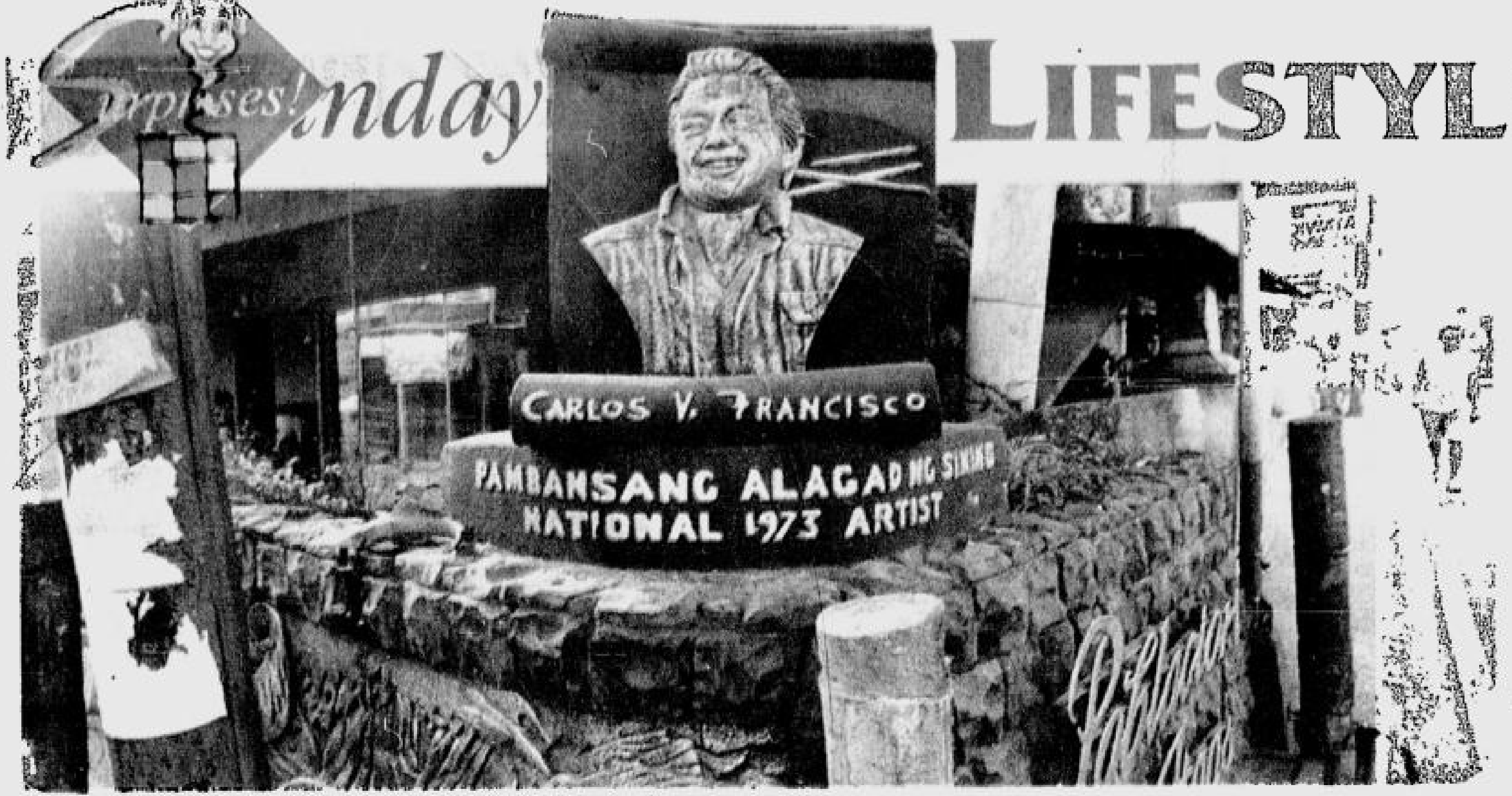
Sunday LIFESTYLE



BUST of Carlos "Botong" Francisco at one end of Poblacion Itaas

The writing on the wall for Angono

STORY ON PAGE H2

eastew gweetings!

myGlobe textcards&icons

Spread the fun of Easter with these Looney Tunes picks.

Icons
daffy53
foghor01
looney03
porky31
roadru57
speedy24
sylves42
sylves43
sylves44
sylves45
taz35
tweety42
tweety43
yos01
tweety29

Text Cards
daffy42
looney02
elmer7
looney03
foghorn11
porky32
looney01
sylves39

Wallpaper
foghorn20
looney22
looney23
taz23
looney28
looney32
porky20

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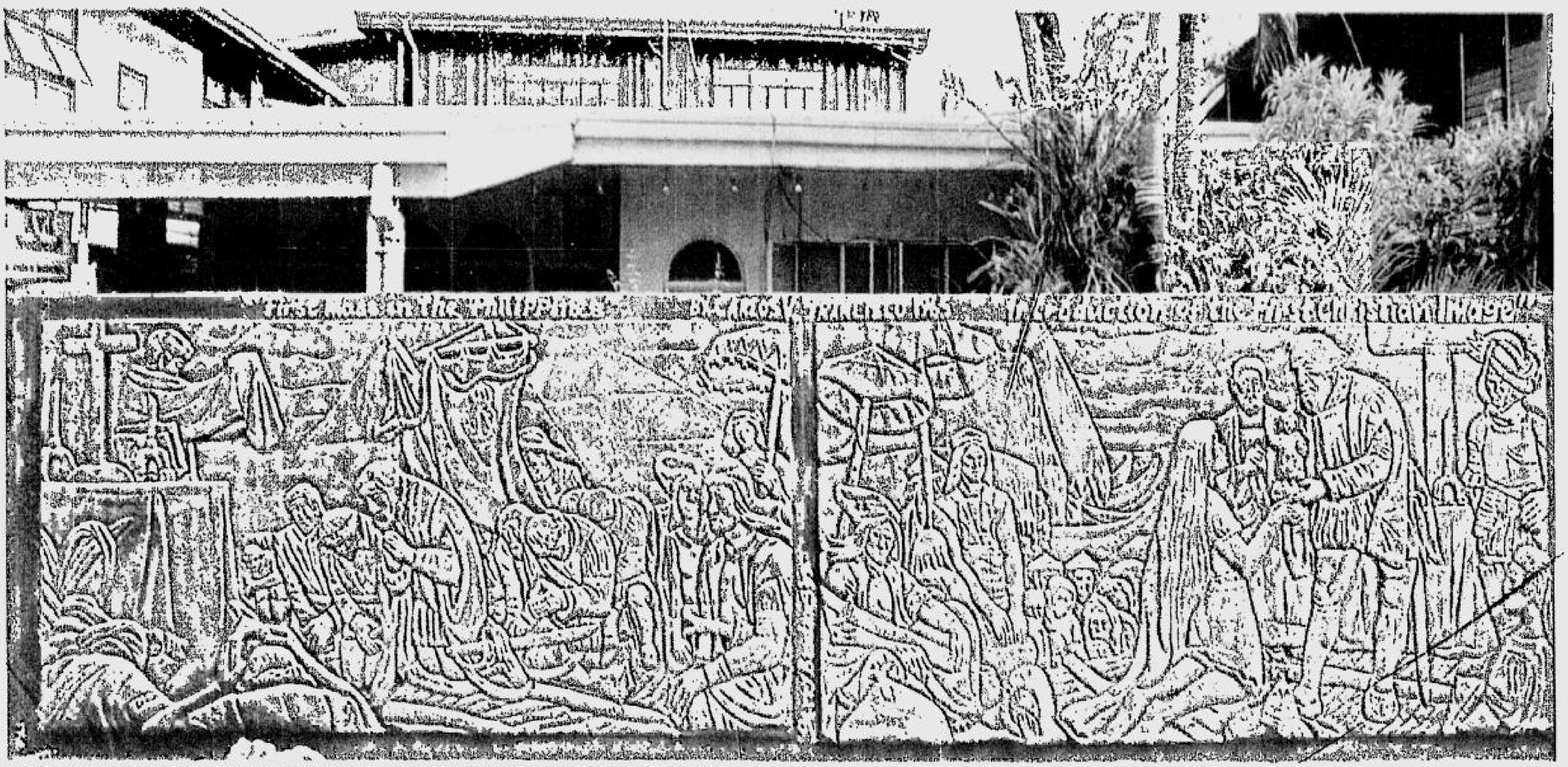
making great things possible Globe



"FIRST Mass in the Philippines" and "Introduction of the First Christian Image" by Gerry Bantang

The Writing on the Wall for Angono

The Rizal town famous for its artisans and National Artists fights off inner-city graffiti and other urban plagues in the only way it can—through art

Text by Rowena C. Burgos
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

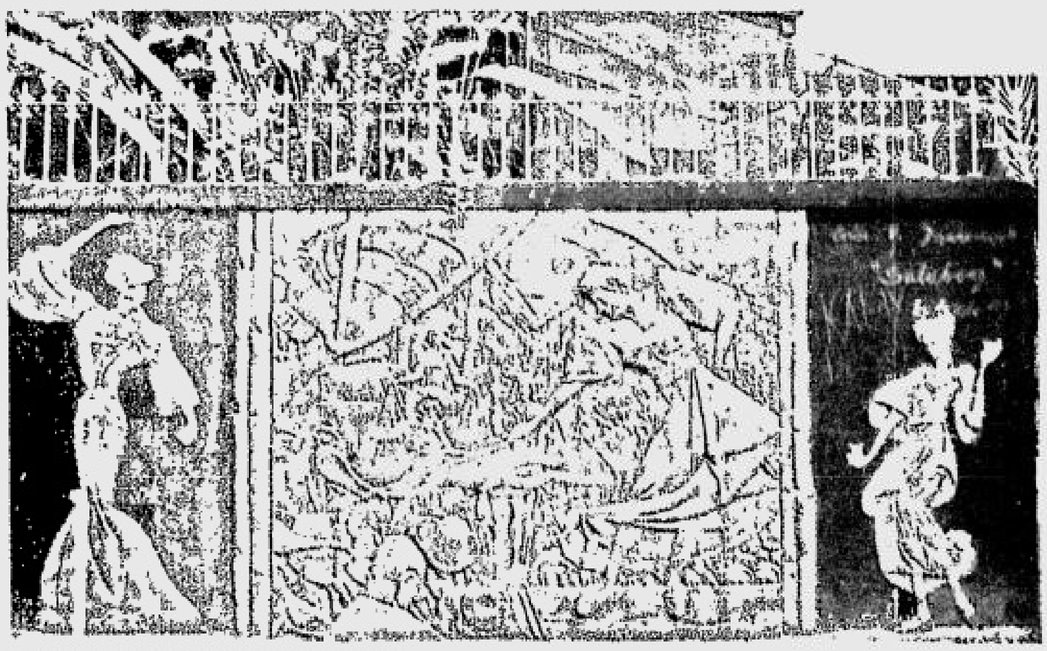
MURALS may be considered a town's biography, providing a people with their own image of themselves. They represent the people's identity and collective consciousness; they represent their history and their future.

For Charlie Anorico, Gerry Bantang and Ebong Pinpiño, however, the murals they have created on Dona Aurora Street, Barangay Poblacion Itaas, Angono, Rizal, not only showcase the culture of their town, but also express their respect and admiration for Angono's great son, National Artist Carlos "Botong" Francisco, who celebrated the life of the people in his larger-than-life works.

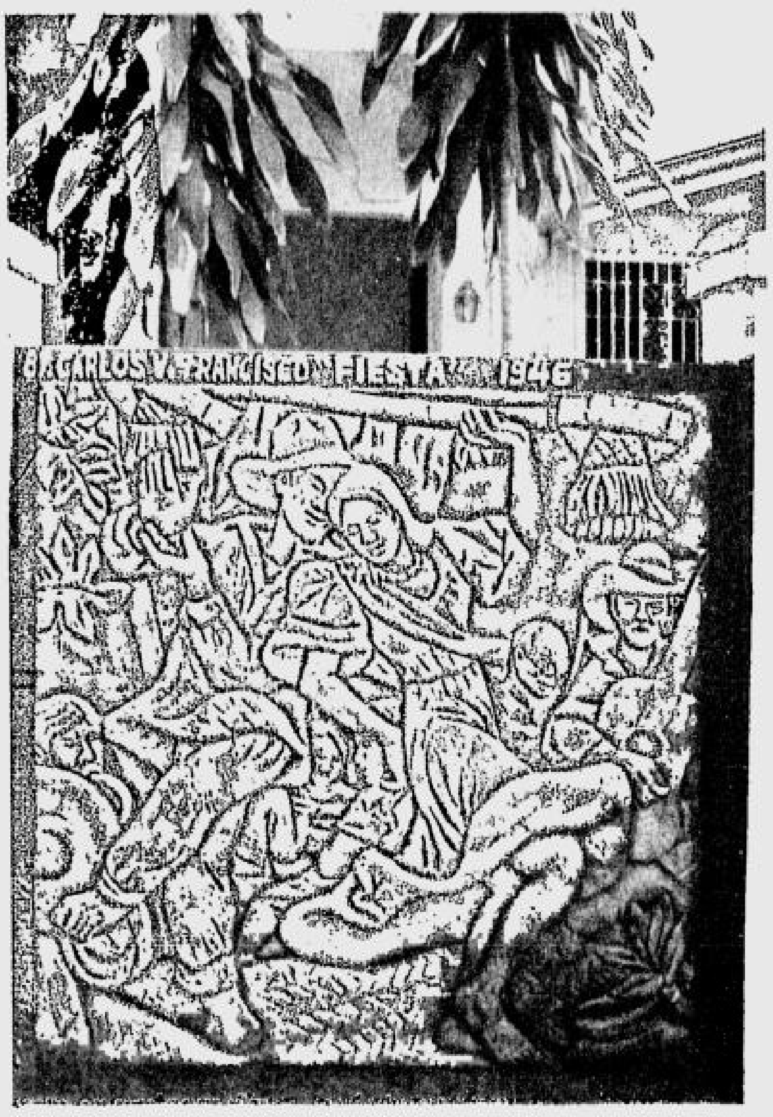
Botong's murals and other paintings are emblematic of the Philippines' history, folklore, Catholic faith and nationalism.

A man of his times, Francisco used a language very much his own to express his conception of the world, but without sacrificing communion with the people. Fiestas, fluvial parades, religious processions, community revelry and sharing of a bountiful harvest fascinated Botong no end, and they showed in his colorful celebratory works, which up to now no Filipino couldn't resist relating to.

A master of the human figure, Francisco painted murals about the common people, most of them Angonons: farmers and street sweepers, fishermen and vendors, musicians and construction workers. Such creations offer us a peaceful world, static and inert, yet filled with the energy of the search for a better and more just world.



"SALUBONG" by Charlie Anorico



"FIESTA" by Bantang

Sculpted lyrics and notes

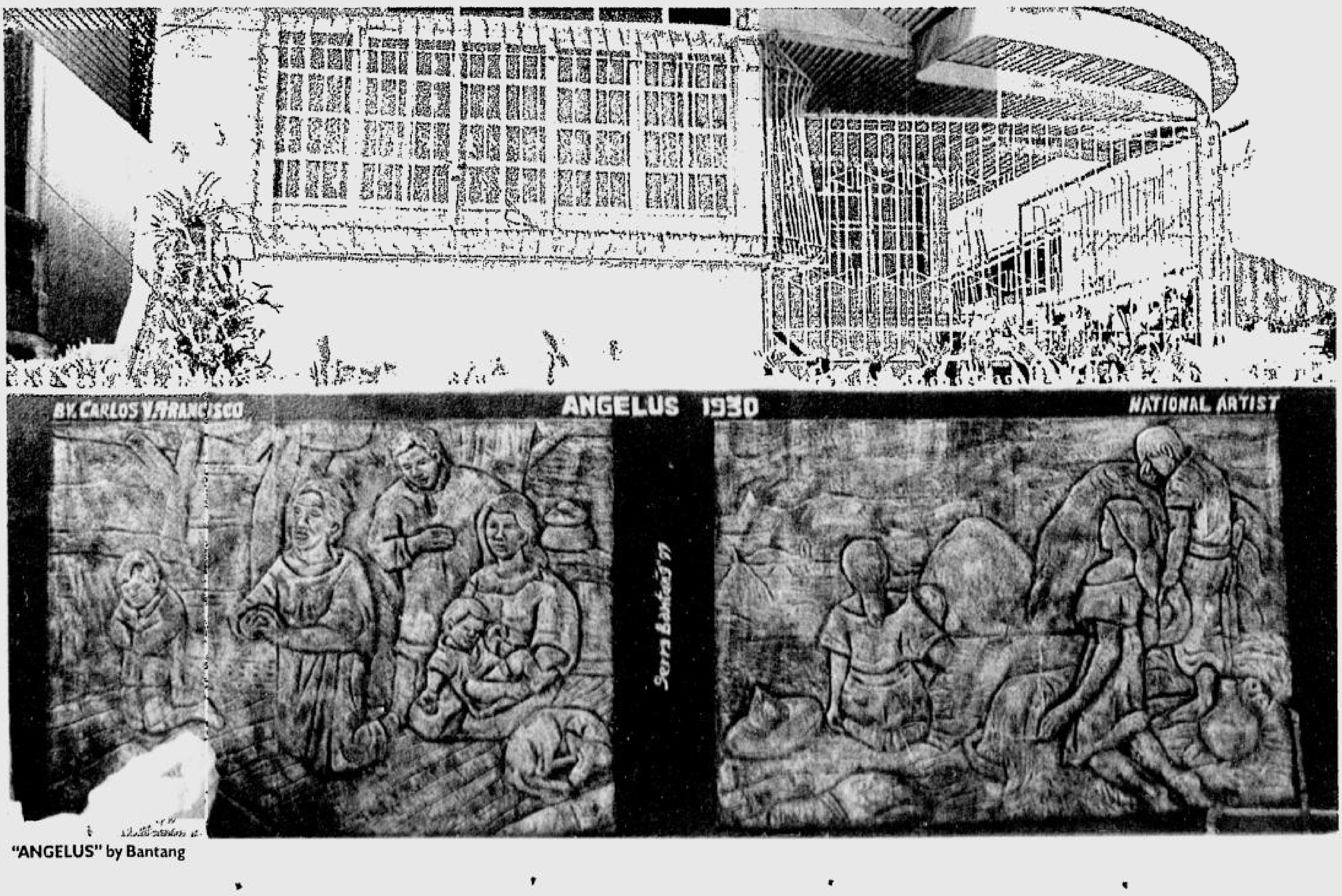
At one end of Poblacion Itaas, one can find the busts of Botong and another National Artist, Lucio San Pedro.

A prolific composer and multitalented musician, San Pedro nurtured the musical talents of the town's youth by guiding the famous Angono National Symphonic Band.

San Pedro's immortal lullaby, "Sa Ugoy ng Duyan," finds its place also on Doña Aurora Street. The lyrics, which were done by Levi Celerio, another National Artist, and the notes have been inscribed by Anorico on the walls of teacher Naning Floriza's house at the other end of Poblacion Itaas.

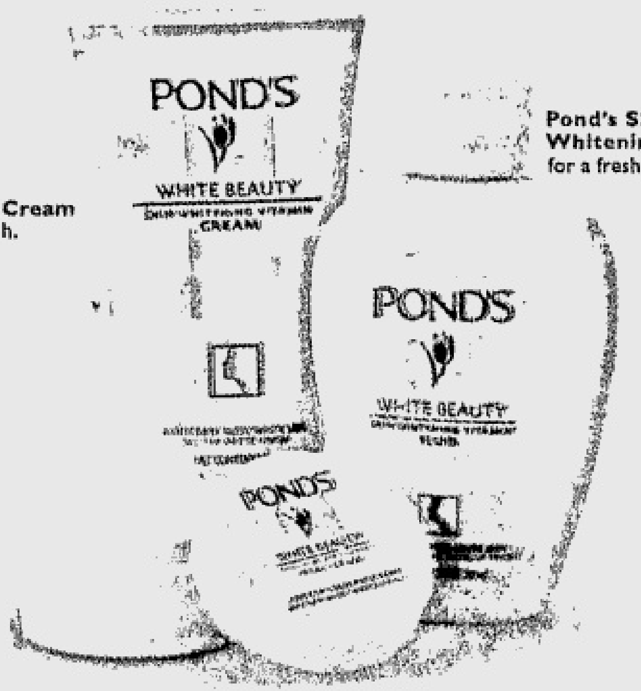
A walk through Poblacion Itaas gives visitors a glimpse of Botong's famous paintings.

THE WRITING/ H6



"ANGELUS" by Bantang

THREE DIFFERENT WAYS TO STAND OUT FROM A CROWD,



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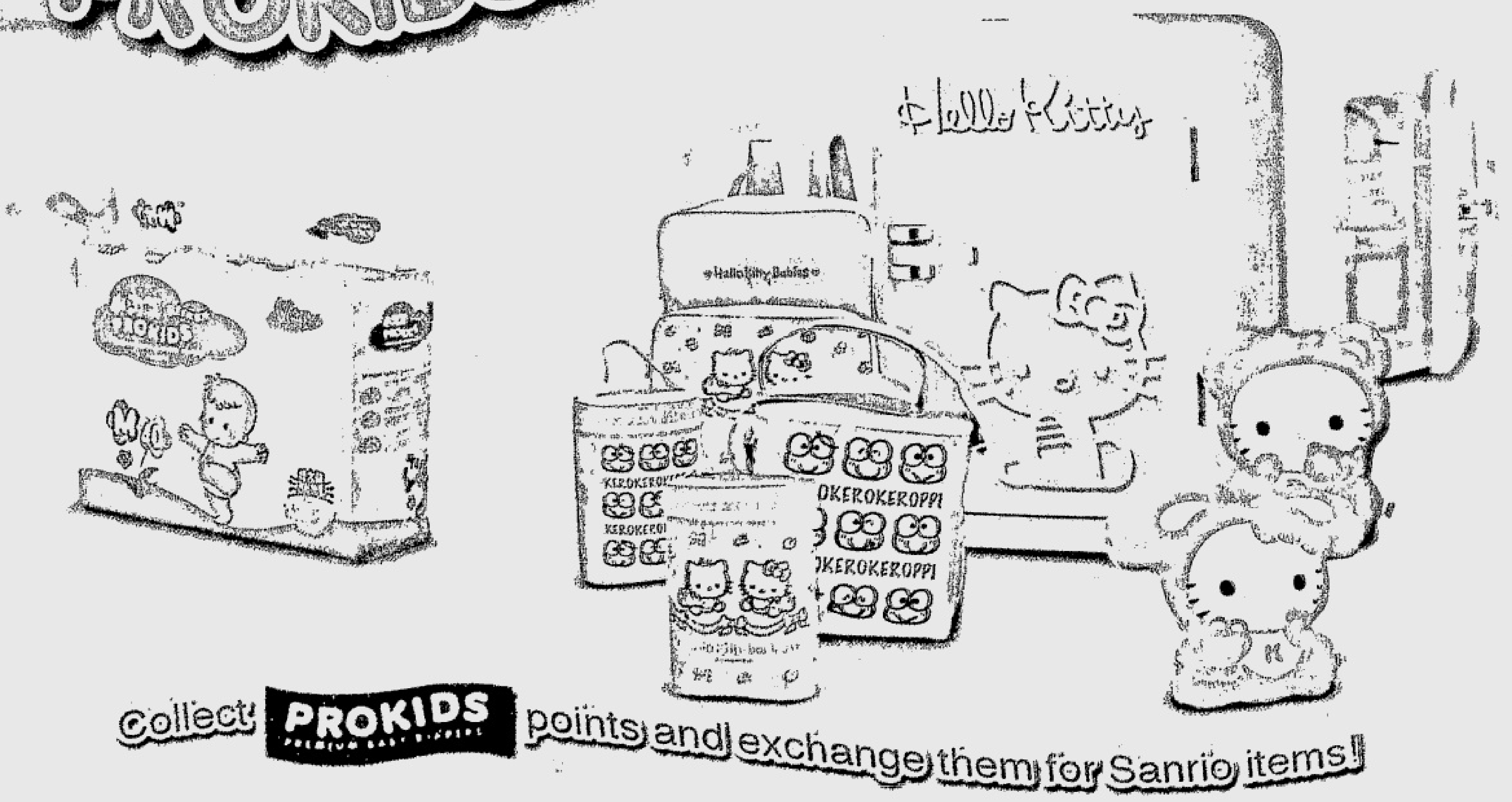

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Mandaue North Central M.L. Quezon Ave.,
Cubangkalan, Mandaue, Cebu City

Gift Gate and Sanrio Surprise Stores: Gift Gate, Glorietta 2 Ayala Center • Gift Gate Alabang Town Center • Gift Gate Harrison Plaza • Gift Gate SM Megamall B

Redemption Booths in Supermarkets: Hi-Top Supermarket, QC • Choas, Olongapo • Magic Star, Tarlac City • Airland, Angeles City • Nacional Supermarket, San Fernando, La Union • Sunshine Supermarket, Baguio • Citimart (Caedo) Batangas City • Metro Ayala Gaisano Cebu • Gaisano Mall Davao

Sub-Distributors: LU BEAUTY HAUS - Dalumpenas, Oeste, San Fernando City, La Union • ROSCOM & COMPANY- Door 4 MSC Bldg., Valeria Ext. St., Iloilo City • TRIPLE 8 ENTERPRISES - 673 Ante Subd., Washington Drive, Legaspi City • GOLDEN CENTURY MKTG. - 10 R. F. Abejuela St., Cagayan de Oro City • CCT VENTURE - 6501 Pawing Palo, Tacloban City • MINGATE CORPORATION - JTT Bldg. Atilano Loop, Veteran's Ave. Ext., Zamboanga City • MKC c/o Popong's Suerte Mart 482-486 A. Consunji St., San Fernando, Pampanga • DAVAO ASIAN DISTRIBUTOR, INC. - SPK Compound, Warehouse, 3, KM 7, Lanang, 8000 Davao City • GREEN TAG CORPORATION - PACE Building 3rd Lacson St., Bacolod City

2. **Unitrade Office/Sub-Distributor's Redemption Schedule:** Everyday except Sunday starting April 1 - August 14, 2003. **Gift Gate Stores and Supermarkets Redemption Schedule:** Every Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays starting April 4 - August 10, 2003
3. Prizes with their corresponding required Prokids Premium Baby Diaper label points and additional cash requirements:

ITEMS	Points + Php Added
Mobicool Mini Refrigerator	28 points + Php 800.00
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Dear Daniel Diecut Pillow	10 points + Php 100.00
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Kerokerokeroppi Shoulder Bag	8 points + Php 200.00
Hello Kitty Babies Bottle Bag	4 points + Php 80.00
Kerokerokeroppi Bottle Bag	4 points + Php 80.00

4. Corresponding points per packaging are as follows: Mini pack/4's = 1/4 pt. • Big pack = 1pt. • Value pack = 2 pts.
5. Consumer may join as many times as they want.
6. Prizes may not be converted to CASH.
7. Promo period is from April 1 to August 14, 2003.

PROKIDS
SANRIO SWAP 2

For more information, visit our website at www.evei.com.ph
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0404 Series of 2003

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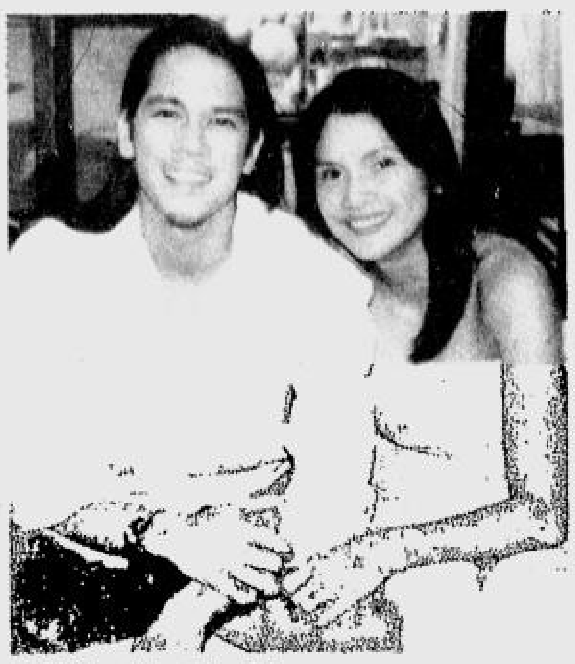
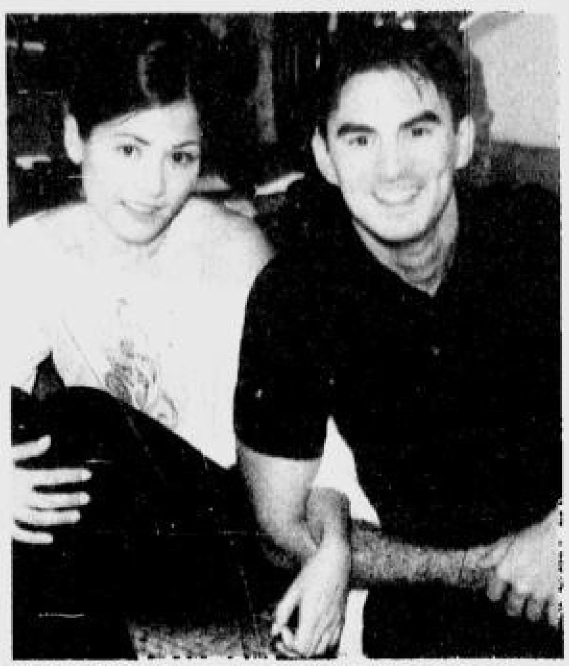

MANU and Agot Sandejas


MARITONI Fernandez and Hans Montenegro

TIM Yap and Celine Lopez

SUZI and Paolo Abrera

Twosomes come up with perfect settings

AYALA Center's Homezone Lifestyle Settings presents "Perfect Pair," a lifestyle exhibit featuring four of Manila's notable twosomes and their table arrangements.

For the month-long exhibit, The Zone put its 15 home and accessories establishments at the couples' disposal, resulting in four stylish arrangements that reflect the personalities and lifestyles of the designers.

Party personalities Tim Yap and Celine Lopez's creation of eccentricity revolves around two colors—pink and green. The table setting explores the whimsical allure of Chinoiserie, the enchanting charm of Shabby Chic, the inviting warmth of French Country, and the kitschy surprise of '70s Psychedelia, in a four-seater, mix and match setting.

With their tropical Filipiniana creation, Paolo and Suzi Abrera tried to present "something casual, lighthearted, relaxed and outdoorsy." Indigenous throw pillows and mats complement rustic wooden benches with an antique capiz divider, a canvas parasol and a macrame hammock as backdrops.

Hans Montenegro and Maritoni Fernandez opted for minimalism. A local low table or duping share the spotlight with a sea grass floor mat, Japanese lamps and stoneware tea sets. Candles brighten up plain areas for a cozy nook that is low on clutter but high on functionality.

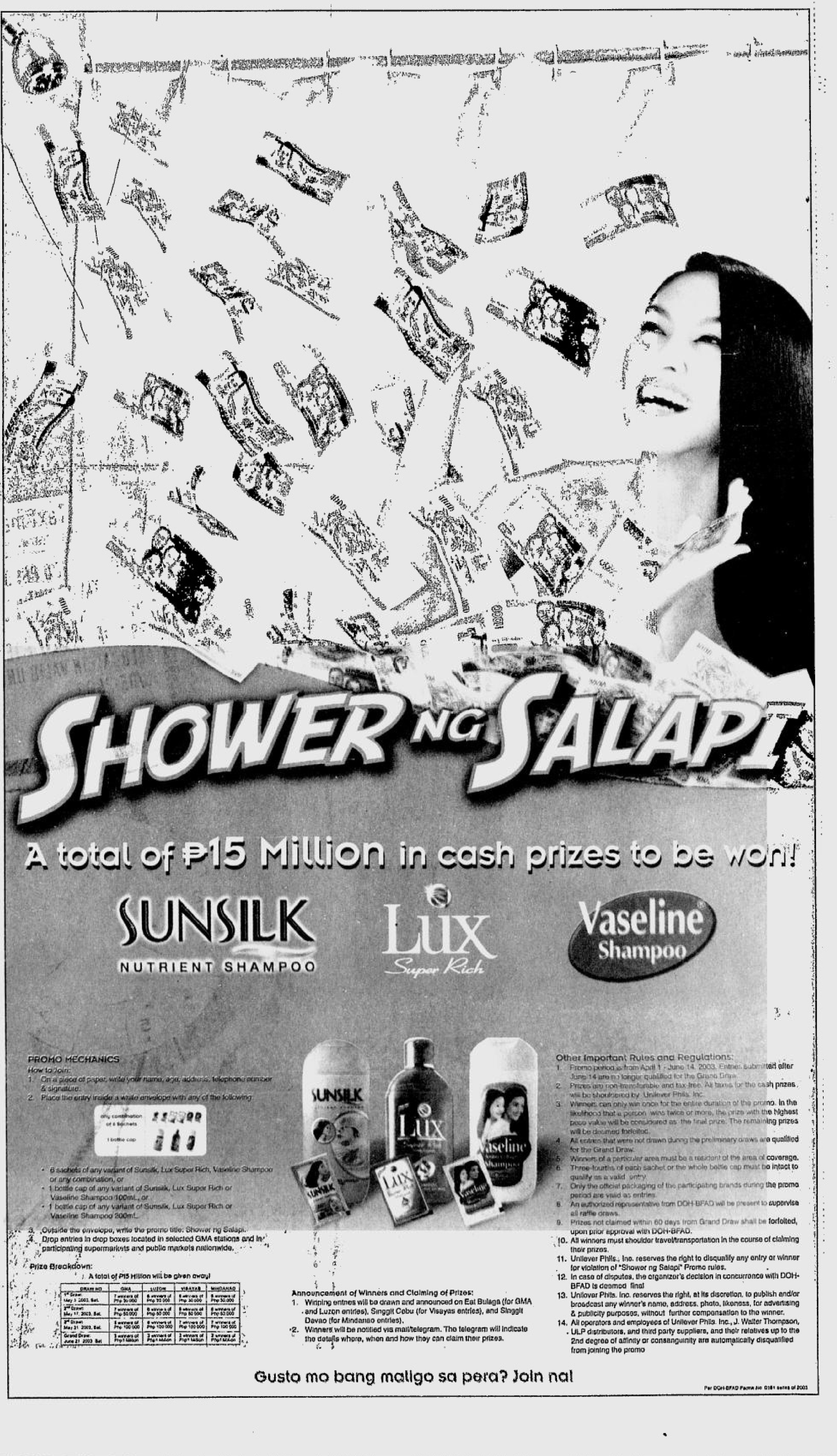
Manu and Agot Sandejas' inspiration for an arrangement seemingly borrowed from a Daniel Steele novel is their love for food, wine and relaxation. Empty wine bottles serve as sturdy partners to the silver cheese platter on a wooden table. Hushed white ottomans and an upholstered divan chair get their touch of color from a shower of flowers. A bright splash of red also provides contrast to the muted room.

The spotlight is on the couple's self-penned poetry.

TWOSOMES/ H7

LIFESTYLED table setting styled by Suzi and Paolo Abrera

STYLED by Tim Yap and Celine Lopez


SHOWER NG SALAPI

A total of ₱15 Million in cash prizes to be won!

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Lux Super Rich
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PROMO MECHANICS
How to Join:
1. On a piece of paper, write your name, age, address, telephone number & signature.
2. Place the entry inside a white envelope with any of the following:

any combination of 6 sachets
1 bottle cap

- 6 sachets of any variant of Sunsilk, Lux Super Rich, Vaseline Shampoo or any combination, or
- 1 bottle cap of any variant of Sunsilk, Lux Super Rich or Vaseline Shampoo 100mL, or
- 1 bottle cap of any variant of Sunsilk, Lux Super Rich or Vaseline Shampoo 200mL.

3. Outside the envelope, write the promo title: Shower ng Salapi.
4. Drop entries in drop boxes located in selected GMA stations and in participating supermarkets and public markets nationwide.

Prize Breakdown:
A total of P15 Million will be given away!

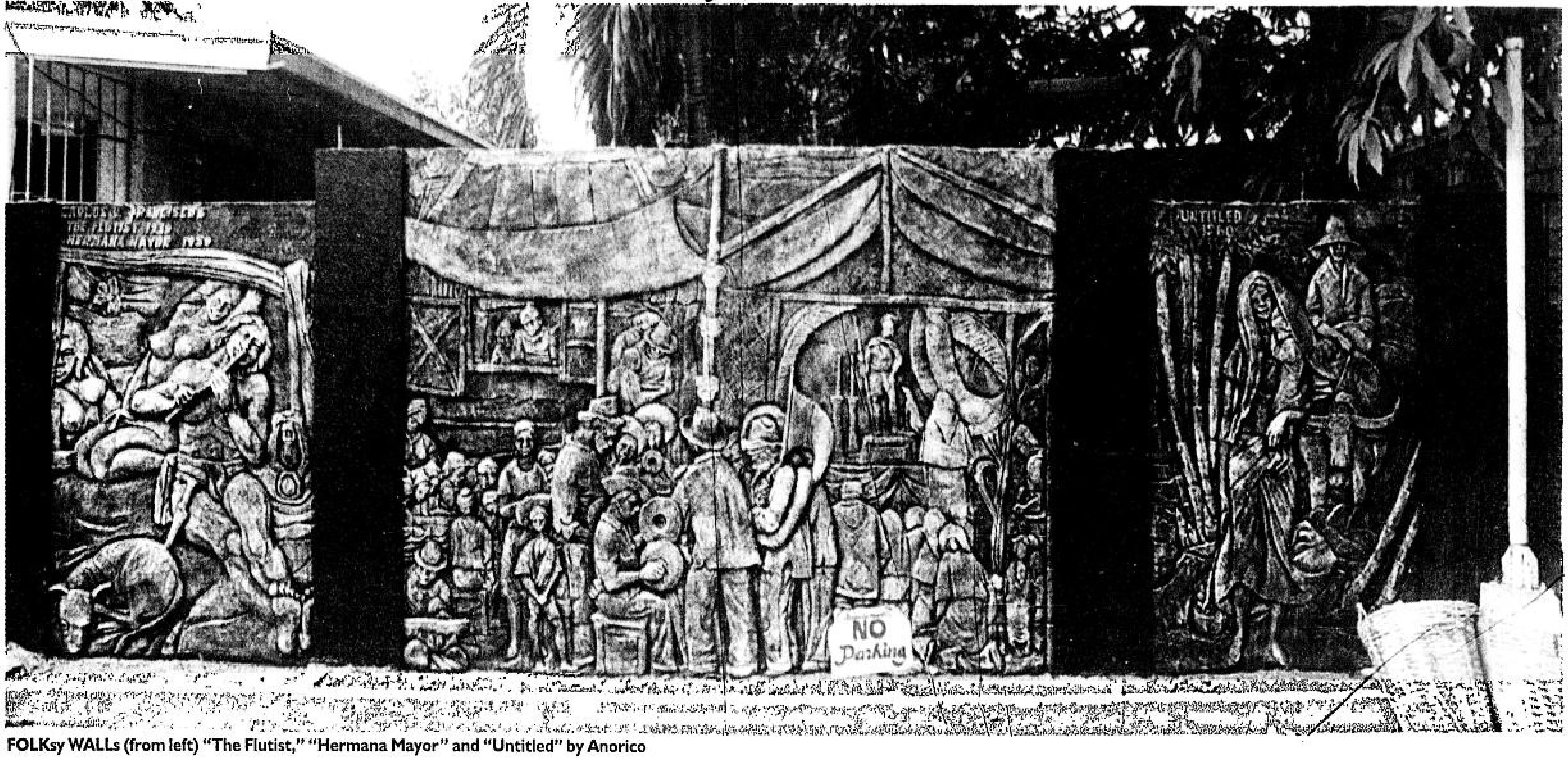
DRAW NO	GMA	LUZON	VISAYAS	MINDANAO
1st Draw May 3, 2003, Sat.	7 winners of Php 50,000	8 winners of Php 50,000	8 winners of Php 50,000	8 winners of Php 50,000
2nd Draw May 17, 2003, Sat.	7 winners of Php 50,000	8 winners of Php 50,000	8 winners of Php 50,000	8 winners of Php 50,000
3rd Draw May 31, 2003, Sat.	8 winners of Php 100,000	8 winners of Php 100,000	7 winners of Php 100,000	7 winners of Php 100,000
Grand Draw June 21, 2003, Sat.	3 winners of Php1 Million	3 winners of Php1 Million	3 winners of Php1 Million	3 winners of Php1 Million

Announcement of Winners and Claiming of Prizes:
1. Winning entries will be drawn and announced on Eat Bulaga (for GMA and Luzon entries), Singgit Cebu (for Visayas entries), and Singgit Davao (for Mindanao entries).
2. Winners will be notified via mail/telegram. The telegram will indicate the details where, when and how they can claim their prizes.

Other Important Rules and Regulations:
1. Promo period is from April 1 - June 14, 2003. Entries submitted after June 14 are no longer qualified for the Grand Draw.
2. Prizes are non-transferable and tax-free. All taxes for the cash prizes will be shouldered by Unilever Phils. Inc.
3. Winners can only win once for the entire duration of the promo. In the likelihood that a person wins twice or more, the prize with the highest peso value will be considered as the final prize. The remaining prizes will be deemed forfeited.
4. All entries that were not drawn during the preliminary draws are qualified for the Grand Draw.
5. Winners of a particular area must be a resident of the area of coverage.
6. Three-fourths of each sachet or the whole bottle cap must be intact to qualify as a valid entry.
7. Only the official packaging of the participating brands during the promo period are valid as entries.
8. An authorized representative from DOH-BFAD will be present to supervise all raffle draws.
9. Prizes not claimed within 60 days from Grand Draw shall be forfeited, upon prior approval with DOH-BFAD.
10. All winners must shoulder travel/transportation in the course of claiming their prizes.
11. Unilever Phils., Inc. reserves the right to disqualify any entry or winner for violation of "Shower ng Salapi" Promo rules.
12. In case of disputes, the organizer's decision in concurrence with DOH-BFAD is deemed final
13. Unilever Phils. Inc. reserves the right, at its discretion, to publish and/or broadcast any winner's name, address, photo, likeness, for advertising & publicity purposes, without further compensation to the winner.
14. All operators and employees of Unilever Phils. Inc., J. Walter Thompson, ULP distributors, and third party suppliers, and their relatives up to the 2nd degree of affinity or consanguinity are automatically disqualified from joining the promo

Gusto mo bang maligo sa pera? Join na!

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0181 series of 2003



FOLKsy WALLs (from left) "The Flutist," "Hermana Mayor" and "Untitled" by Anorico

The writing on the wall for Angono

From page H2

Scenes from life

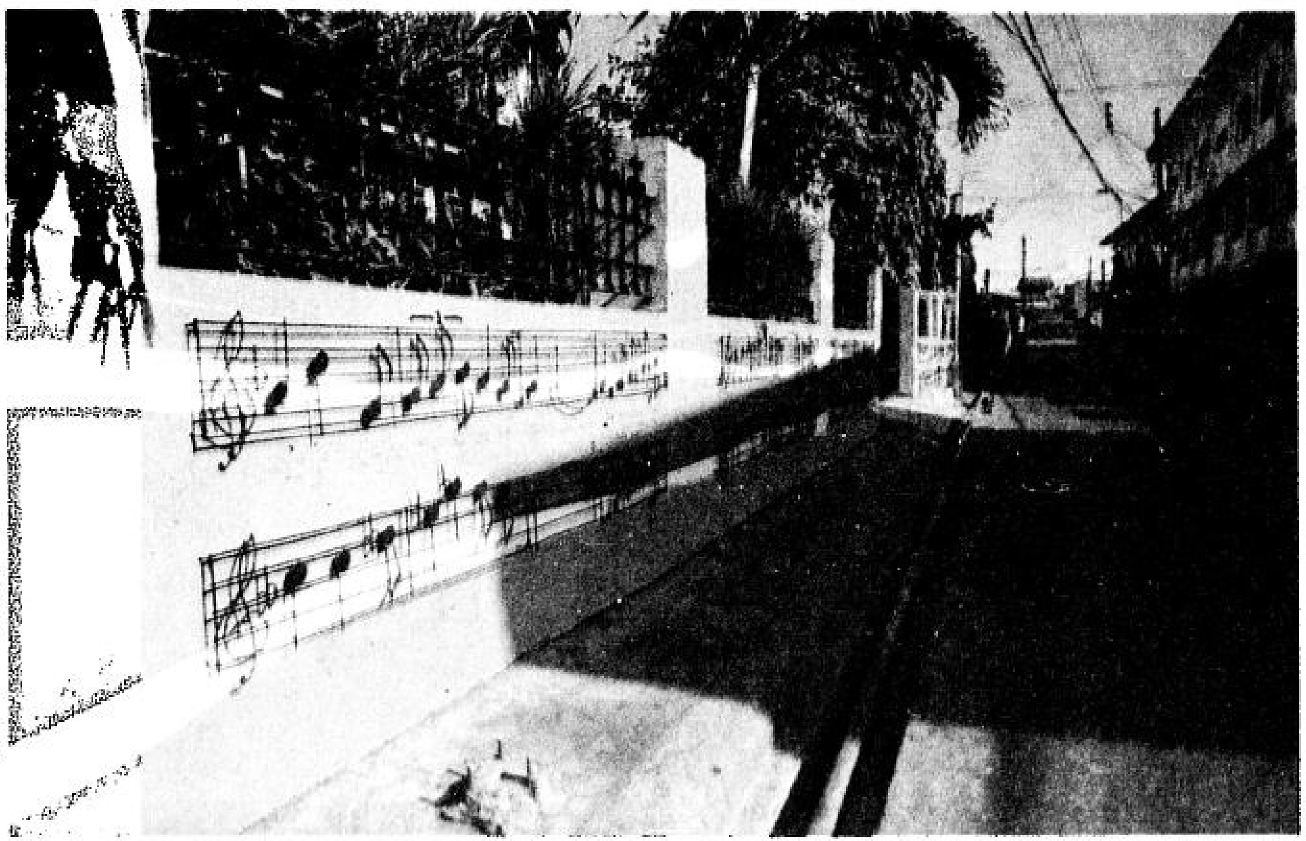
Gold-painted relief carvings on the walls of houses, the barangay hall and the public dental clinic depict "A Woman With a Deer" (undated), "Si Malakas at si Maganda" (1960), "Harana" (1962), "Magpupukot" (1957), "Progress of Medicine" (1953), "Maglolang Nagbubungkal ng Lupa" (1969), "Camote Eaters" (1956), "The Flutist" (1939), "Hermana Mayor" (1959), "Untitled" (1960), "Introduction of the First Christian Image" (1965), "First Mass in the Philippines" (1965), "Pista sa Nayon" (1947), "Pageant of Commerce" (1957), "Family at Meal" (1938), "Pilgrimage to Antipolo" (1960), "Angelus" (1930), "Fiesta" (1946), "Salubong" (undated), "Code of Kalantiao" (1947), "Blood Compact-Sandugo" (1957), "Kaingin" (1945), "Fiesta" (1946), "Bayanihan" (1962), "Juego de Prenda" (1959), "Si Andres Bonifacio at ang Katipunan" (1968-69), "Muslim Betrothal" (1958), "Princess Urduja" (undated) and "Pinipig" (1969).

Anorico also did "Si Botong sa Ibabaw ng Samil" as his way of recognizing the late National Artist's rare excellence and significant contribution to Philippine art.

At the barangay hall's entrance, Anorico sculpted "Ang Nuno," showing an old dwarf or an old wise man. It is believed that the name was the origin of Angono. "This legend has given inspiration to the artists of Angono in the creation of their artworks," said Anorico.

LUCIO D. SAN PEDRO
PAMBANSANG ALAGAD NG SINING
NATIONAL 1991 ARTIST
Mabuhay!

BUST of Lucio San Pedro, 1991 National Artist for Music



NOTES and lyrics of "SA Ugoy ng Duyan," a composition of Lucio San Pedro and Levi Celerio, inscribed on the walls of a house by Anorico.

Murals make art accessible to people and create neighborhood change

Beside "Ang Nuno" is Anorico's other sculpture, "Sirena sa Doongan ni Bero."

"Some fishermen have reportedly seen a mermaid by the lake," the artist said.

The sculpted walls were the brainchild of Arlin Villamayor, Poblacion Itaas' barangay chairman. Anorico, Bantang, Pinpiño and other local artists and artisans started work on the walls in 1996.

"The murals show scenes of rural life and the creativity and love for the arts of the townspeople," Anorico said.

The walls are also part of an official effort to stem the proliferation of graffiti in the community. Invariably, once a mural goes up, it becomes a catalyst for other kinds of neighborhood improvements: gardens are planted and tended, picnics are held, people venture out of their homes, communities are reconstituted.

Beautification projects have been going on for decades in some cities across the Philippines, often with striking results. But it is still remarkable, even to an artist like Anorico, how artworks on the walls can transform a community.

"I've always thought murals make art accessible to people, and they do," Anorico said. "But I've witnessed how they create real neighborhood change, too."

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

CHARLIE Anorico puts the finishing touches on "Pinipig."

"**BAYANIHAN**" by Anorico

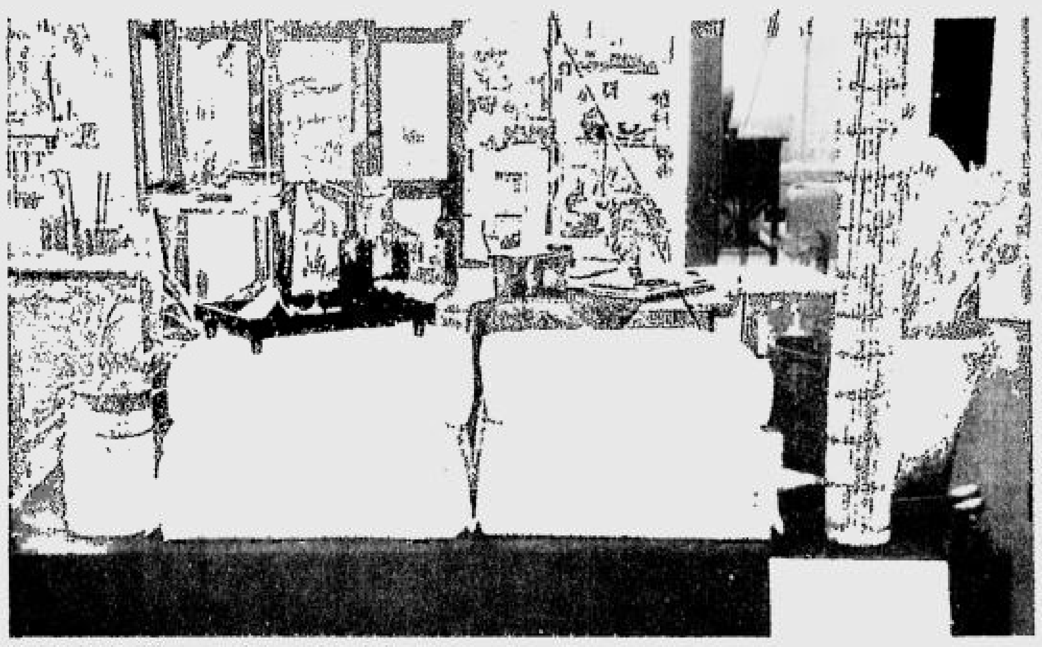
TABLE setting styled by Hans Montenegro and Maritoni Fernandez

Twosomes come up with perfect settings

From page H5

Among the first guests of Homezone's exhibit are the management of Ayala Land led by Miriam Katigbak, senior vice president; Rowena Tomeldan, assistant vice president; CJ Jesena, center manager; Carol Torres, operations manager; Cathy Bengzon ad and promo manager; and Pinky Abad.

The "Perfect Pair" runs through the whole month of April at Ayala Centers Home Zone, 3/L, Glorietta 4. Participating Home Zone stores are Home and Beyond, Dimensione, Urban Effects, Robles Heritage, Ragalong Pambahay, Victoria, PNKY, Asian Finds, Earth Colors, Shell Canvas, Custom Clay Shop, Cereo Candle Exchange, Restoration, Fine Things, and Unica.



STYLED by Manu and Agot Sandejas

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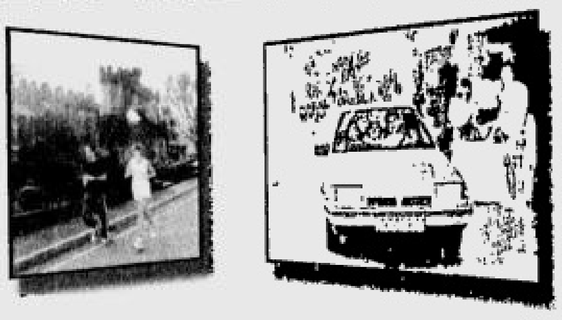

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The Truth About Cholesterol and Cooking Oil

FICTION: Healthy human bodies do not have cholesterol in their system.
FACT: Whether or not we consume food rich in cholesterol, the human body would still have cholesterol in its system. Cholesterol is an essential constituent of all the cells of our body.
Unbelievable but true, the human body could not survive without cholesterol. Dr. Terence Kavanagh, a famous cardiologist, wrote in his book "*Take Heart*" that **"we really don't need cholesterol in our diet, since our body can manufacture its own."**

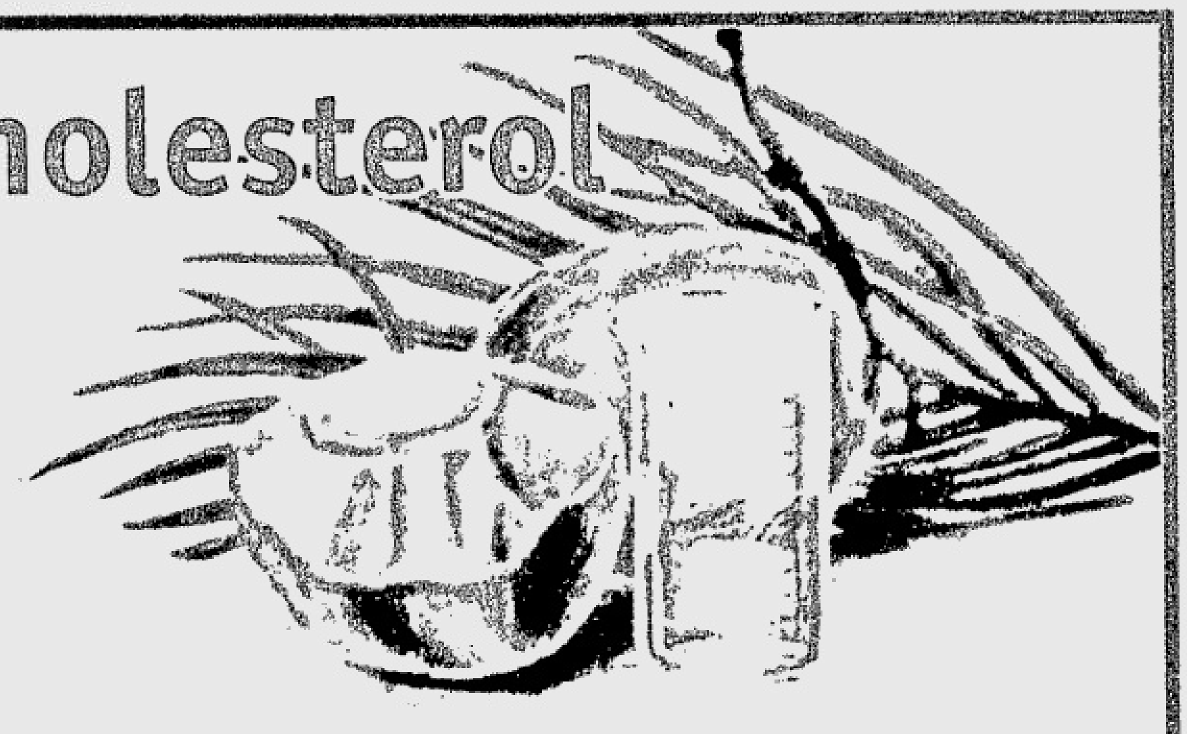
FICTION: There are two cholesterol in the body, a "bad" one and a "good" one.
FACT: **No. There is just one cholesterol and it is neither bad nor good.**

Cholesterol, being a lipid (fatty substance), does not dissolve in water or blood (which is 80% water). It has to be carried in the blood by special particles called lipoproteins.

Lipoproteins vary in size and density. The low-density lipoproteins (LDL) carry the cholesterol from the liver, where it is formed, to the different cells of the body - where the cholesterol is used for making steroid hormones, bile salts and cell membranes. The excess cholesterol may be deposited in arterial plaques and this is why the term "bad"has been applied to the cholesterol in LDL.

The cholesterol deposited in the tissues is carried by high-density lipoproteins (HDL) to the liver for excretion in the bile. Since this cholesterol in HDL is on the way out, it has been called "good".

FICTION: All cooking oils are bad for the health.
FACT: Just as there is "good" cholesterol, there is also a "good" cooking oil. And one "good" cooking oil is that which is made from coconut oil.



In its chemical composition, coconut oil is made of 69% **medium chain triglycerides (MCTs).**

The outstanding characteristic of MCTs is that they are rapidly transported to the liver, and there converted to energy.

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Minola Premium Edible Oil - it's always been cholesterol-free because it's made from coconut oil.

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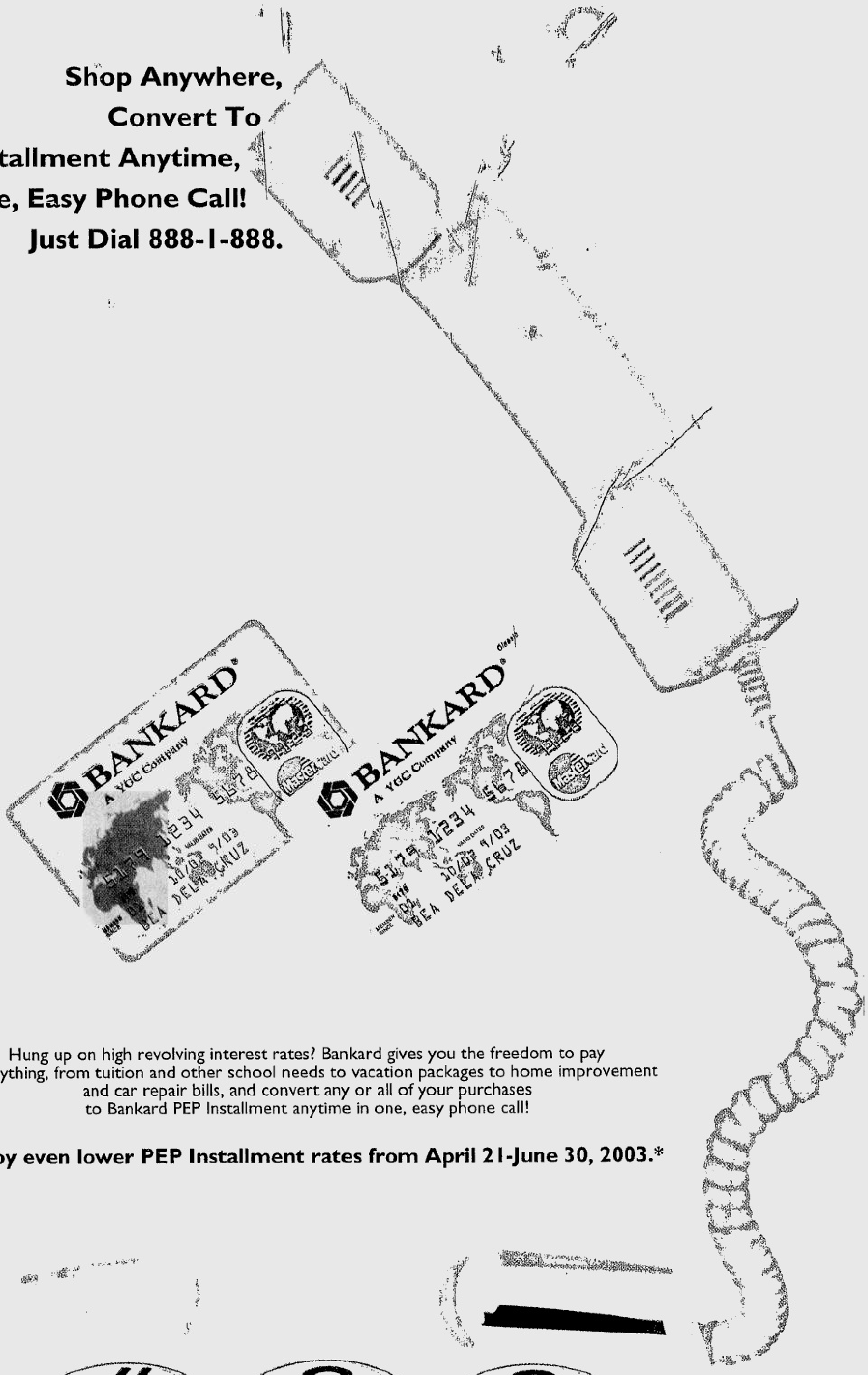
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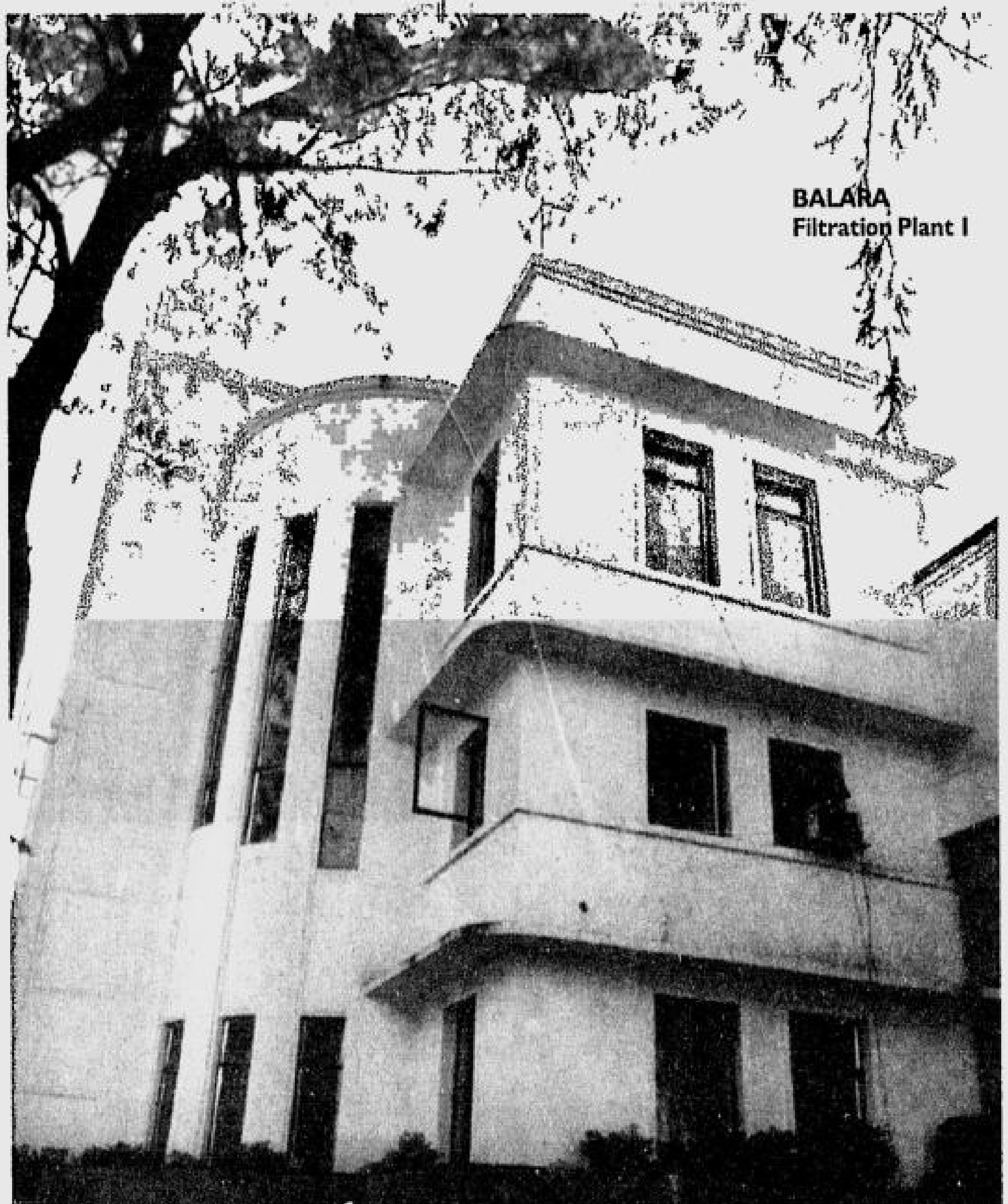
Sunday LIFESTYLE



BALARA
Filtration Plant I

Balara to the future

The water-filtration complex has the largest assembly of Art Deco structures in the country and is set to reinvent itself as a family park

WINDMILL Park gate

Text by Constantino C. Tejero
Photos by Roger Carpio

SUMMER for Metro Manilans used to mean places like Hinulugang Taktak in Antipolo and Balara in Quezon City. Those were the days.

The sites either dried up or went to seed, and Metro Manilans trying to escape the heat wave were left with nothing but the black hole that is Manila Bay.

In Old Balara, at least, there remains a few swimming holes where the water is still pristine. As well it should be, as this is where water for the metropolis is being treated. (Its 99.8-percent potability is above the World Health Organization standard of 95 percent.)

The Victoria Pools, centerpiece of the Balara Filters Park, still attract 500 visitors a day, who swim for free, says Metropolitan Waterworks & Sewerage System administrator Orlando Hondrade.

A fishing area will soon be constructed. In fact, the whole Balara Filtration Compound is now undergoing massive development.

The restoration was conceptualized in 2001 by a team led by Manila Water Co. president Antonio T. Aquino. Tapped to lay out the development masterplan was architect and urban planner Paulo Alcazaren.

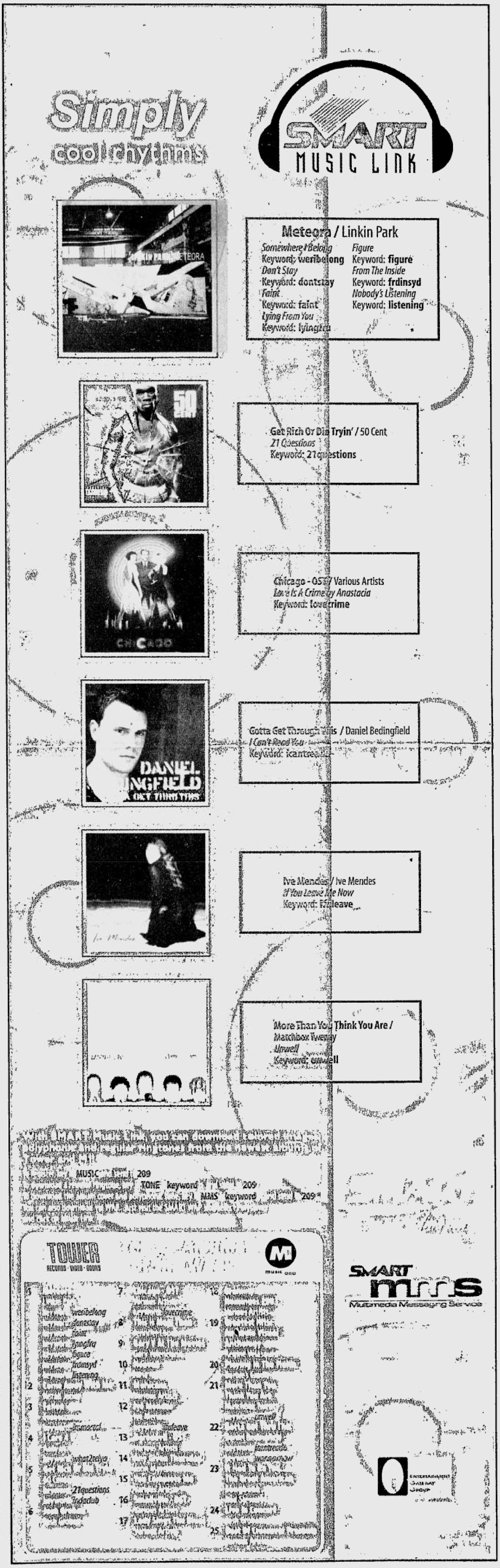
The restoration of old structures runs parallel with the rehabilitation of the place. This involves three segments: cultural, environmental and community development.

The city government has committed to set up a livelihood program for the Balara community.

The Billion Trees Movement has planted 50,000 tree seedlings—of mahogany, *narra, gmelina, caballero, neem*. (There are no fruit-bearing trees as they would need pesticide, which is hazardous particularly for a water-

BALARA/ I2

"BERNARDINE," the waterbearer in the rotunda



Simply cool rhythms

SMART MUSIC LINK

Meteora / Linkin Park
Somewhere I Belong
Keyword: weribelong
Don't Stay
Keyword: dontstay
Faint
Keyword: faint
Lying From You
Keyword: lyingfrm
Figure
Keyword: **figure**
From The Inside
Keyword: **frdinsyd**
Nobody's Listening
Keyword: **listening**

Get Rich Or Die Tryin' / 50 Cent
21 Questions
Keyword: 21questions

Chicago - OST / Various Artists
Love Is A Crime by Anastacia
Keyword: lovecrime

Gotta Get Through This / Daniel Bedingfield
I Can't Read You
Keyword: icantread

Ive Mendes / Ive Mendes
If You Leave Me Now
Keyword: ifuleave

More Than You Think You Are / Matchbox Twenty
Unwell
Keyword: unwell

MUSIC 209
TONE keyword 209
MMS keyword 209

TOWER RECORDS · VIDEO · BOOKS
music one

SMART mms Multimedia Messaging Service

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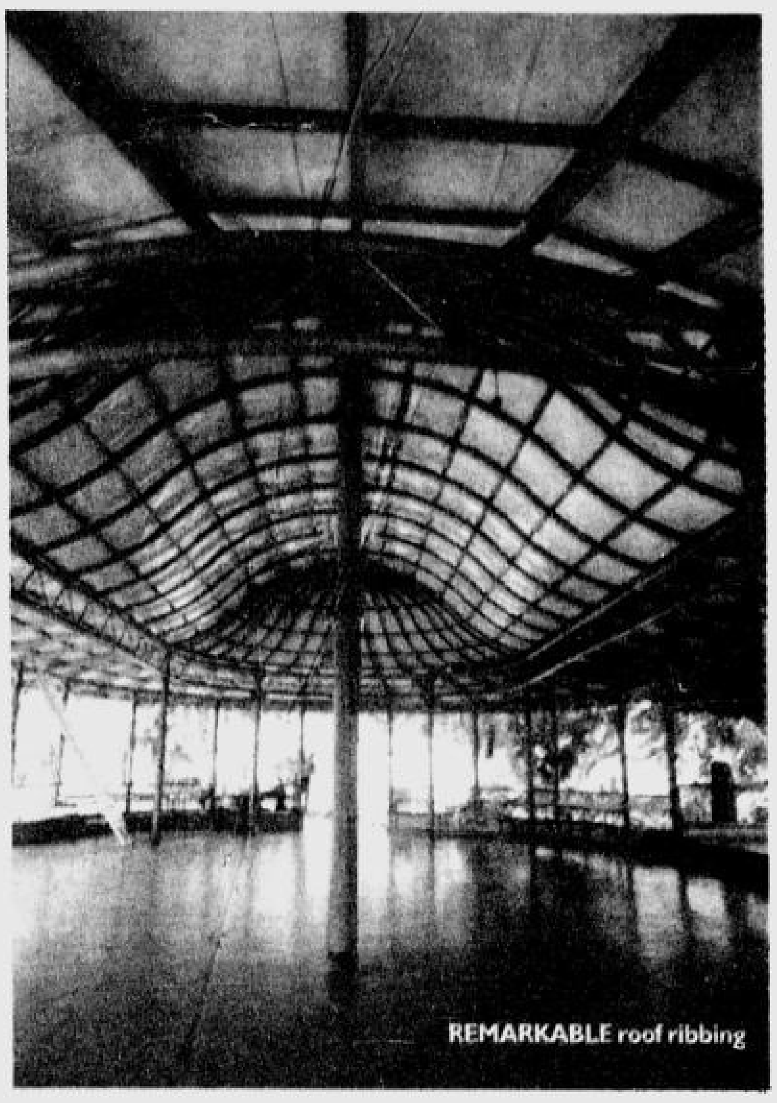
LION Head

OROSA Hall

STAIRCASE in the Filtration Plant 1 lobby



REMARKABLE roof ribbing

Balara to the future

From page 11

filtration place.)

As the grounds would be transformed into one massive park, Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. has asked architect Zaldy de la Rosa, chief of the Quezon City Parks Development, to help.

Vintage buildings

The 60-hectare place (almost as big as Rizal Park) is dotted with vintage structures and statuary, many of which already rundown. They were created when the MWSS was still the National Waterworks and Sewerage Administration (Nawasa).

What remain of these sculptural and architectural gems, even in their state of dilapidation and various stages of deterioration, is considered the largest collection of Art Deco structures in the country. Built in the time of President Manuel Quezon, they exemplify the decorative art of the 1920s and '30s.

The relatively newer ones, such as the '50s quonset-like community canteen, kiosks and pavilions, manifest the styles of the postwar years. Many of these were designed by the Mañosas.

The Balara Filtration Plant 1, built in 1938, is said to be the oldest in Asia. The building is typically Art Deco. Its simplicity in style, with its elegant streamlined form and symmetrical, geometric and rectilinear lines, is classical in spirit.

The small chapel has a beautiful façade but shabby interior. It has been described by Alcazaren as "done in spare Italianate style."

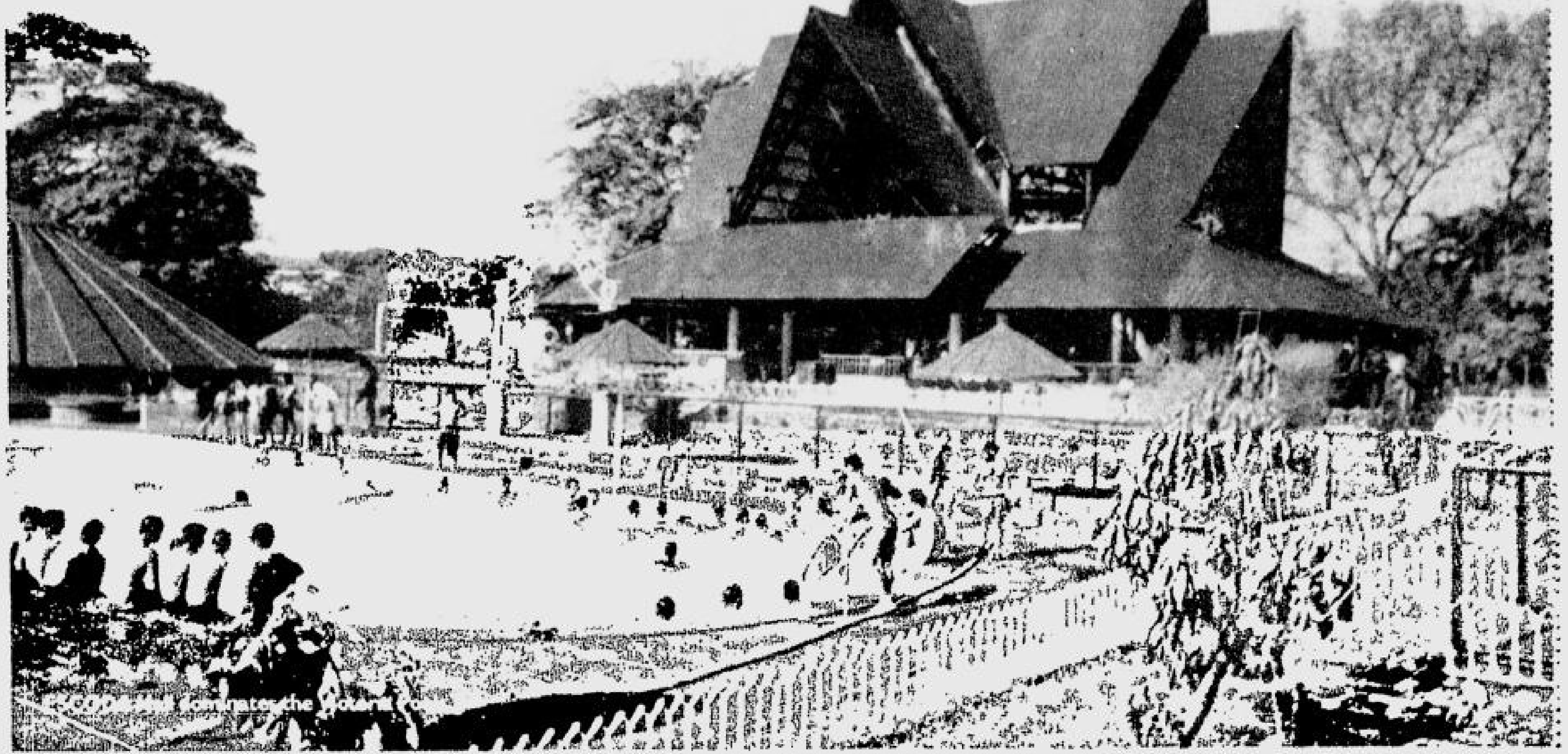
Orosa Hall, built in the late '40s, is an open ornamental summerhouse painted blue and white, notable for the metal ribbing of its roof.

Escoda Hall, built in the '50s, is an imposing white-and-red pavilion dominating the swimming-pool complex. This is the picturesque building one sees in old postcards of Balara. It was originally of timber and asbestos, but it has been restored using sheet iron and concrete.

The colossal water tank, the area's structure which can be seen from all angles in the distance, is now a derelict. But there's a plan to turn it into a museum.

Along with these building are numerous smaller structures, such as kiosks, cottages, bungalows, gazebos and toilets, which are no less charming in their period designs.

Extant but already rusty are a few of the original directional arrows and signage on period signposts, quaint pictograms of metal cutouts.



[illegible] dominates the [illegible]

DETAILS of a kiosk

Parks and statuary

Then there are the sculptural works of Fermin Gomez, a contemporary of Fernando Amorsolo. These are of stone or concrete, allegorical and rather kitschy, but quite valuable for their vintage appeal.

Taking pride of place is "Bernardine," the white statue of a nude waterbearer on the fountain in the rotunda, welcoming visitors to Balara. It is said to be named after Quezon City Mayor Bernardo.

"A Nymph" is a recumbent figure languishing on a hyacinth pond, in front of the administrator's resthouse.

A representation of Mother Philippines is a triumphant figure on a chariot pulled by two carabaos. It is set in the middle of a fountain (the original Machuca tiles retouched) in a small park overlooking Marikina Valley.

The Workers' Monument, near a globe and the aerator of the old filterworks, commemorates the Nawasa employees who died in the construction of the filters. It has three muscular males bearing a huge urn inscribed with a line in Gothic script: "Unknown I unto all but not unto my God and co-workers."

The Lion Head has a gaping maw for the filters' backwash water. It spouts water five times a day, or 17-32 times during the rainy season when turbidity is high.

In front of the MWSS administration is a replica of the Carriedo Fountain of Sta. Cruz, Manila, done by Napoleon Abueva.

Entailing more extensive restoration and labor are the numerous parks and grounds dotting the area.

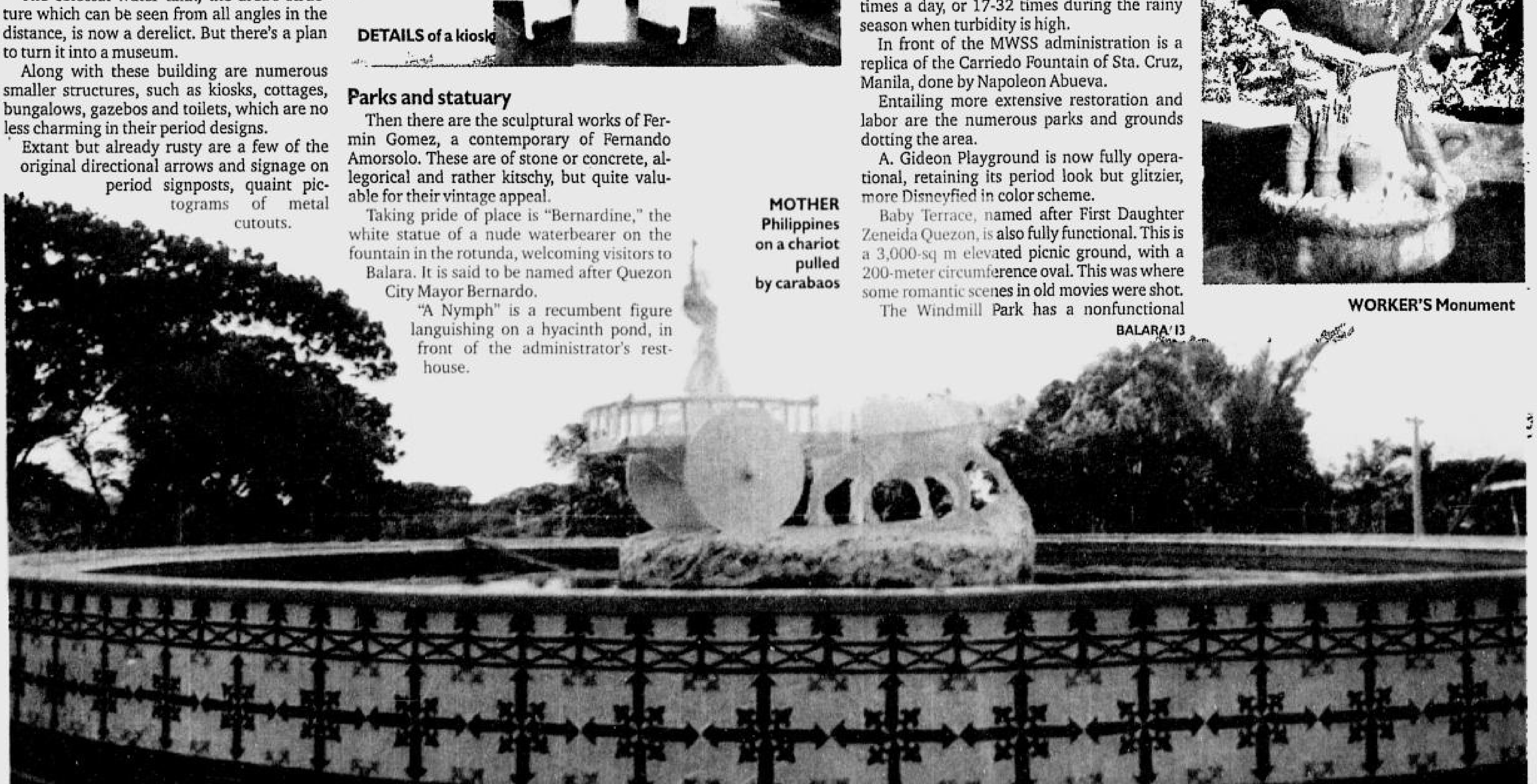
A. Gideon Playground is now fully operational, retaining its period look but glitzier, more Disneyfied in color scheme.

Baby Terrace, named after First Daughter Zeneida Quezon, is also fully functional. This is a 3,000-sq m elevated picnic ground, with a 200-meter circumference oval. This was where some romantic scenes in old movies were shot.

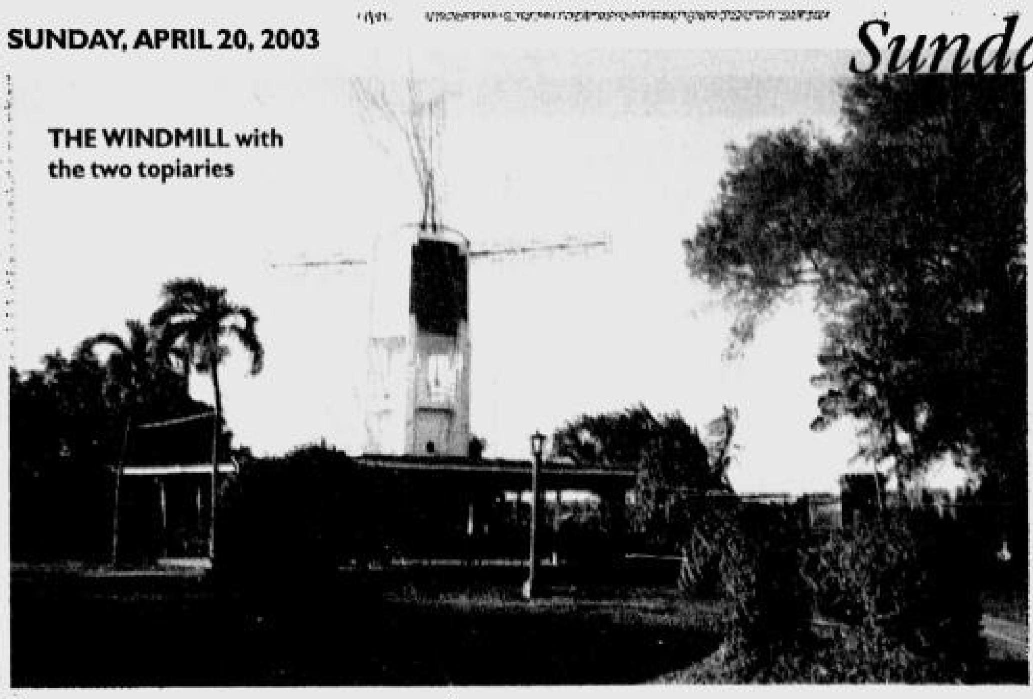
The Windmill Park has a nonfunctional

BALARA/ 13

WORKER'S Monument



MOTHER Philippines on a chariot pulled by carabaos



THE WINDMILL with the two topiaries

Balara to the future

From page l2

windmill. This was the original water tank for the Balara community before the bigger tank was built after the war.

The park has a fountain, a kiosk and a bust of Don Francisco Carriedo, the Spaniard who donated the money to build Manila's first water system.

There are two lumps of vines which used to be topiaries representing Don Quixote's horse Rosinante and Sancho Panza's donkey, their metal-mesh frames still visible underneath the creeping plants. No longer to be found are the metal sculptures of the knight and his sidekick, said to be created by Abueva, mounting these topiaries.

For restoration

Waiting for restoration is the Anonas Amphitheater, with its crumbling band shell, seat supports, projection room (shaped like a Swiss chalet), orchestra pit (filled with eroded soil).

And the grotto in a cove on elevated ground, said to be miraculous.

And the concrete relief map of Jerusalem, the Nativity, the wishing well, the dried-up geese pond, on the chapel's grounds.

These areas are now filled with leaves, dried leaves from trees surrounding the place.

"Puro talahib 'to dati rito," says Ramon M. de Leon, group director for human resources and corporate services at the Manila Water Co., with a wide sweep of his eyes to indicate the expanse. "Then we did grass-cutting. *Talagang* voluntarism."

The stakeholders and prime movers behind this extensive rehabilitation and restoration are Hondrade, Aquino, Rep. Maite Defensor, Mayor Belmonte and Billion Trees Movement president, Justice Amado Valdez.

"Cost of total restoration could run P40-50 million," says Manila Water corporate communications director Joel Lacsamana. "It's still an ongoing restoration. Maybe in a year's time this will be a workable area."

Four of the seven areas in Balara being rehabilitated will be inaugurated on Friday, April 25, and opened to the public. Just in time for this heat wave bedeviling Metro Manilans.

Next on the agenda is the restoration of La Mesa Dam.

THE WATER tank

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DAY 1

Training in first aid and CPR application, evacuation drills, rescue skills and hazard determination.
All participating families will receive a certificate and will qualify for the competition.

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Test your endurance in a series of exciting emergency rescue skills competition.
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PROFESSIONAL RESCUERS ARE ALSO INVITED TO JOIN!
Five teams composed of professional rescuers from different public safety organizations will compete in the professional category.

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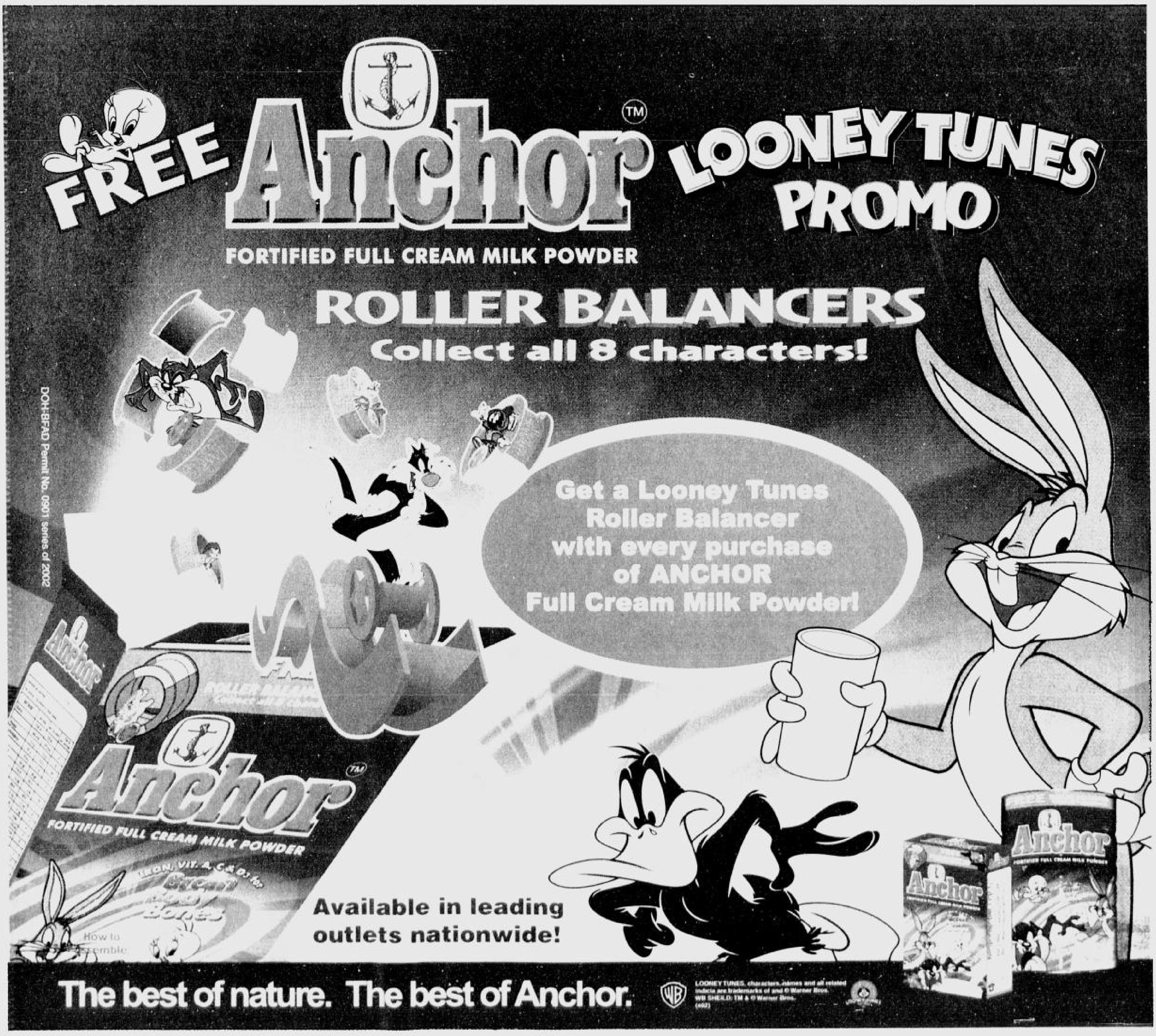
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The 25th Asia-Paci
95th PDA Annual Convent

Theme: Quality Dentistr

April 24 - May 1, 20(

Messages

I extend my cordial greetings to the organizers, sponsors and delegates to the 25th Asia Pacific Dental Congress of the Asia Pacific Dental Federation coinciding with the 95th Annual Convention and Scientific Meeting of the Philippine Dental Association with the theme: Quality Dentistry and Modern Technology.

I commend your collective efforts to provide a venue for continued education and exchange within your organization, as well as, scientific forums and technological exhibits.

Your dynamic role in providing accessible and quality service to the less fortunate in our society and in the region reflects the dynamic and altruistic spirit of all the stakeholders of this event. Indeed, the cooperation among you will help provide the synergy to create a more vibrant and healthy global community.

My administration is one with you in realizing the efficient delivery of dental healthcare services in the region. I wish the success of this event and urge you to continue strengthening the ties between you and our government.

MABUHAY!

Her Excellency GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President, Republic of the Philippines

Program of Activities

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2003

09:00am - 12:00pm	PIERRE FUCHARD ACADEMY MEETING (by invitation only) Pan Pacific Hotel
07:30pm - 10:00pm	ICD DINNER (by invitation only) Columbus Room, Discovery Suites

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2003

08:00am - 05:00pm	GOLF TOURNAMENT Alabang Country Club Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City
08:00am - 5:00pm	REGISTRATION PICC Lobby
09:00am - 5:00pm	APDF COUNCIL MEETING 1 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 9, PICC
09:00am - 5:00pm	PDA PRESIDENTS' DIALOGUE/LEADERSHIP SEMINAR Harana Ballroom, Hyatt Hotel
12:00nn - 02:00pm	APDF PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON (by invitation only) Davao Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2003

08:00am - 5:00pm	REGISTRATION PICC Lobby
08:00am - 12:00pm	PDA FIRST PLENARY SESSION HOUSE OF DELEGATES Harana Ballroom, Hyatt Hotel
09:00am - 5:00pm	APDF DELEGATES MEETING 1 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 12 PICC
09:00am - 02:00pm	DEAN'S MEETING Negros Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel
12:00pm - 01:00pm	KOREAN LUNCHEON (by invitation only) Davao Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel
01:00pm - 04:30pm	APDF COMMISSIONS MEETING 1 1. Dental Education Mindoro Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel 2. Oral Diseases, Romblon Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel 3. Dental Public Health Sulu Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel 4. Dental Defense Forces Mindanao Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel
01:00pm - 04:00pm	PRE-CONGRESS SYMPOSIUM THE ELEVENTH ASIA PACIFIC ENDODONTIC CONFEDERATION SCIENTIFIC MEETING CONFERENCE 2ND Floor, Meeting Room 2/3 PICC
04:00pm - 06:00pm	OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY & OPENING OF TRADE EXHIBITS Plenary Hall, PICC Exhibition Hall, PICC
06:00pm - 10:00pm	APDC / PDA WELCOME RECEPTION AND FELLOWSHIP NIGHT (by invitation only) Reception Hall, PICC

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2003

08:00am - 5:00pm	REGISTRATION PICC Lobby
08:00am - 2:00pm	PDA HEALTH SCREENING 2nd Floor, D-216 Series, PICC
08:00am - 3:00pm	PDA ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2nd Floor, Reception Hall Foyer PICC
09:00am - 12:00nn	APDF COUNCIL MEETING 2 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 9, PICC
09:00am - 05:00pm	COMMERCIAL EXHIBIT Exhibition Hall, PICC
09:00am - 12:00pm	PLENARY SESSION 1 - FORENSIC DENTISTRY 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 5, PICC
09:00am - 04:30pm	SYMPOSIUM 1 - ORTHODONTICS 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 2/3 PICC
12:00nn - 02:00pm	MANILA MAYOR LITO ATIENZA LUNCHEON (by invitation only) Roma Salon, Manila Hotel
01:30pm - 04:30pm	SYMPOSIUM 2 - PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 2/3 PICC
01:30pm - 04:30pm	FREE COMMUNICATION 1 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 4, PICC
02:00pm - 05:00pm	ICCDE MEETING 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 8, PICC
06:00pm - 09:00pm	HONG KONG NIGHT (by invitation only) Mindanao Ballroom Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel
08:00pm - 11:00pm	PDA AWARDS NIGHT (by invitation only) Reception Hall, PICC

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2003

08:00am - 5:00pm	REGISTRATION, PICC Lobby
08:00am - 02:00pm	PDA HEALTH SCREENING 2nd Floor, D-216 Series, PICC
08:00am - 05:00pm	APDF COUNCIL AND ACCOMPANYING PERSONS TOUR Villa Escudero, Tiaong, Quezon
09:00am - 12:00pm	APDF COUNCIL MEETING 2 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 12 PICC
09:00am - 05:00pm	COMMERCIAL EXHIBIT Exhibition Hall, PICC
09:00am - 12:00pm	PLENARY SESSION 2 - DENTAL MATERIALS AND RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 2/3 PICC
09:00am - 12:00pm	SYMPOSIUM 3 - ART & FUNCTION IN LABORATORY AND DENTAL PRACTICES (PART 1) 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 4, PICC
09:00am - 12:00pm	SPECIAL LECTURE: CONTROL OF DENTINAL HYPERSENSITIVITY 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 8, PICC
12:00pm - 01:30pm	ICCDE CONVOCATION (by invitation only) Visayas Ballroom Westin Philippine Plaza
01:30pm - 04:30pm	SYMPOSIUM 4, TOBACCO 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 5, PICC
01:30pm - 04:30pm	SYMPOSIUM 5, PROSTHODONTICS 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 2/3 PICC
01:30pm - 04:30pm	FREE COMMUNICATION 2 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 4, PICC
03:00pm - 07:00pm	PDA SECOND PLENARY SESSION HOUSE OF DELEGATES Harana Ballroom, Hyatt Hotel
07:00pm - 09:30pm	JAPAN NIGHT (by invitation only) Davao Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel
06:00pm - 11:00pm	DENTSPLY NIGHT (by invitation only) Luzon / Mindanao Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2003

08:00am - 5:00pm	REGISTRATION, PICC Lobby
09:00am - 12:00pm	APDF COMMISSIONS MEETING 2 1. Dental Education Panay Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel 2. Oral Diseases, Mindoro Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel 3. Dental Public Health Sulu Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel 4. Dental Defense Forces
09:00am - 05:00pm	COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS Exhibition Hall, PICC
09:00am - 12:00pm	PLENARY SESSION 3- ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 2/3 PICC
09:00am - 12:00pm	SYMPOSIUM 6 - ART & FUNCTION IN LABORATORY AND DENTAL PRACTICES (PART 2) 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 4, PICC
09:00am - 12:00pm	TABLE CLINICS 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 6, PICC
09:00am - 04:30pm	THE FIRST LAB EXPO: LABORATORY TECHNICIANS AND DENTISTS AS A TEAM FOR PATIENT SATISFACTION 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 7 and 8 PICC
12:00pm - 02:00pm	APDF COUNCIL LUNCH (by invitation only) Leyte/Samar Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel
01:30pm - 04:30pm	SYMPOSIUM 7 - PERIODONTICS 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 2/3 PICC
01:30pm - 04:30pm	SYMPOSIUM 8 - INTER DISCIPLINARY 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 5, PICC
02:00pm - 05:00pm	APDF DELEGATES MEETING 3 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 12 PICC
05:00pm - 06:00pm	CLOSING CEREMONIES Davao Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel
07:00pm - 11:00pm	FAREWELL BANQUET AND PDA PRESIDENTS' NIGHT (by invitation only) Centennial Hall, The Manila Hotel

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2003

09:00am - 12:00pm	APDF COUNCIL MEETING 3 (New Council) 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 9, PICC
09:00am - 05:00pm	COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS Exhibition Hall, PICC
09:00am - 05:00pm	APDF OPTIONAL TOURS
12:00pm - 02:00pm	APDF COUNCIL LUNCH (by invitation only) Leyte Room Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel

THURSDAY, MAY 01, 2003

07:00pm - 11:00pm	APPRECIATION NIGHT (by invitation only) Cachina Room, Century Park Hotel

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 25th Asia Pacific Dental Congress at the Philippine International Convention Center, Manila, Philippines from April 24-May 01, 2003.

This significant eminent gathering promises to be informative and innovative as it includes various dental experts and practitioners worldwide who will be sharing their expertise and experiences with their local counterparts. Continually improving the quality of education of our dental professionals is one of the basic steps towards ensuring excellent dental health care services. It is compulsory for societies of specialized fields to ensure that their members are attuned to the changing needs of the times. Let us strive hard to pursue excellence in all our endeavors and move on to higher levels of learning without sacrificing quality health services to our fellowmen.

In behalf of the Department of Health, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support to all our national health programs. I wish that you will likewise continue to collaborate with us and our other partners in developing innovative and appropriate strategies to address pressing health care issues as we push for significant reforms in the health sector.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

Honorable MANUEL M. DAYRIT, M.D., Msc.
Secretary, Department of Health

My warmest greetings to the 25th Asia Pacific Dental Congress (APDC) and the 95th Annual Convention and Scientific Session of the Philippine Dental Association (PDA)!

The congress theme, "Quality Dentistry and Modern Technology," brings more than 10,000 local dentists and dental practitioners around the Asia Pacific and other parts of the world to the Philippines. It also gives Filipino dentists an opportunity to share their expertise with their colleagues from other countries and to be able to showcase the Filipinos' world-famous hospitality. These events, in a way, help our tourism industry as well as our country's economic recovery.

It is heartening to know that this assembly is being held during the Visit Philippines 2003, a Department of Tourism's campaign fully endorsed by the World Tourism Organization – the biggest policy-making body for global travel and tourism.

Under the administration of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, travel and tourism has been identified as a major engine for socioeconomic development. The government, in collaboration with the private sector is putting more energies and resources to promote the Philippines as a unique and multifaceted business and travel destination.

For its part, the Department of Tourism (DOT) has initiated programs and projects, which all led up to the Visit Philippines 2003 campaign. Some of these initiatives are the "WOW Philippines!" which is the master acronym for "Wealth of Wonders" and "The Philippines: More Than The Usual" campaigns, Tourism Volunteer-12, New "Balikbayan" program, DOT Visitor Information System, Tourism Enterprise Zones, and our national advocacy for the development of a "culture of tourism."

The Visit Philippines 2003 campaign integrates all tourism marketing communication resources to increase visitor-arrivals to our country. It seeks to build a strong partnership with multisectoral entities, local travel trade and the mass media to mount well-planned and sustained marketing programs.

This year, the whole world's attention is focused on the best which our country has to offer as a unique and multi-faceted business and travel destination. With Visit Philippines 2003 in full swing, we invite people from all over the world to come and visit our country where they can explore the wealth of wonders of the Philippines' more than 7,100 islands and experience the Filipino way of celebrating our rich cultural heritage and festive spirit.

Congratulations to the officers of the 25th APDC Manila and 95th PDA Organizing Committee for actively working with us on the immense opportunities of the travel and tourism industry, especially for the "Visit Philippines 2003."

Honorable RICHARD J. GORDON
Secretary, Department of Tourism

My sincerest greetings and felicitations to the officers and members of the Asia Pacific Dental Federation Council, Local Organizing Committee of the Asia Pacific Dental Congress and Philippine Dental Association on your 25th Asia Pacific Dental Congress and 95th Annual Convention and Scientific Session on April 24-May 1, 2003 at the Philippine International Convention Center.

Your theme, "Quality Dentistry and Modern Technology", truly speaks of your noble commitment to upgrade the skills and professionalism of the members of your esteemed association through constant knowledge sharing and fellowship with colleagues both from here and abroad. Your commitment to promote better dental health for our people and your determined effort to enhance the integrity of the dental profession deserves the highest recognition and commendation.

It is with great honor that I welcome all your local and foreign delegates to Manila and invite you to take time to visit the most recent renewal and development projects of the city government, foremost of which is the new Roxas Boulevard. This is the product of the combined efforts of our people, now armed with a new confidence and belief that collectively, we could introduce meaningful changes in our City.

MABUHAY!

Honorable JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.
City Mayor Manila

Dear Friends, Colleagues, and Participants:

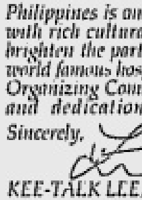
On behalf of the Asia Pacific Dental Association/Asia Pacific Regional Organization, or APDF, it is my privilege to extend congratulations to the Philippine Dental Association on the successful hosting of the 25th Asia Pacific Dental Congress for 2003 to Manila. The Philippine Dental Association, or PDA, has already been host to the World Dental Federation Congress as well as several APDF annual congresses in the past. I look forward to another winning performance by the PDA on the upcoming 25th APDC.

The infinite pool of high caliber dental professionals and industrial partners throughout the Philippines makes it possible for PDA to be a leader for the region in the development and advancement of our country's dental health. With the 25th APDC, PDA continues to set a high standard for the region. I am confident that the 25th APDC will be an invaluable opportunity of growth for both the PDA and APDF, its effects reaching dental professionals as well as all aspects of various related industries from the Asia Pacific.

Philippines is one of the most important country in the Asia Pacific region with rich cultural and natural resources. A visit to Manila will soothe and brighten the participants of the 25th APDC with its beautiful facilities and world famous hospitality. I would like to especially thank the 25th APDC Local Organizing Committee and Chairman Dr. Diampo Lim for all the hard work and dedication. I look forward to seeing you soon in Manila!

Sincerely,

KEE-TALK LEE, D.D.S., M.S.D., Ph.D.
President, Asia Pacific Dental Federation/Asia Pacific Regional Organization



On behalf of the officers of the Asia Pacific Dental Federation and the local Organizing Committee, I would like to extend my sincerest greetings to all the members of the Philippine Dental Association and our foreign delegates comprising the other national dental associations in the Asia Pacific region who will attend and take part in the 25th Asia Pacific Dental Congress Manila 2003 in conjunction with the PDA 95th Annual Convention.

It is indeed an honor and privilege to welcome all the participants and delegates to this convention anchored on the theme, "Quality Dentistry and Modern Technology". The environment on dental health care is changing rapidly due to the demands of times, new technology, the state of the art materials – the reason for our consolidated effort for our dentists in the region to grow.

With a very remarkable scientific program which will be participated by speakers from different parts of the world coupled with an array of dental trade exhibits to showcase new products, equipment and technology I am positive the Congress will satisfy the intellectual and clinical advancement of all our delegates in the practice of quality dentistry.

Despite the economic and political turmoils affecting the world, we shall remain united in our common goal of bringing quality dental service to our people.

Have a great and productive convention!

JESUS C. TUMANENG, D.M.D.
President-Elect
Asia Pacific Dental Federation /Asia Pacific Regional Organization

The Asia Pacific Dental Federation is proud to be
its 25th Congress in conjunction with the Philippin
Association's 95th Annual Meeting in

The Local Organizing Committee ably led by General C
Dean Diampo Lim has forged a strong bond with the Pl
International Convention Centre Management and
produce a team which ensures an exciting and smoo
Congress. With large, well appointed lecture halls and the absolu
building for the Industry Exhibition, the facilities will allow you to
outstanding event.

As you will see, the Scientific Program is truly international, bold,
and catering to all, a feature being the number of inter-disciplinary
Your difficulty will be choosing what to miss.

The Council Members of the APDF hope that you have a memorabl
Manila and enjoy the legendary Filipino hospitality will be disp
abundance during the social and other events of that the next f

JEFFREY R. ANNAN, B.D.S., Dip Clin Dent, FICD, FADI
Secretary General, Asia Pacific Dental Federation/
Asia Pacific Regional Organization

It is indeed a great pleasure and an honor for the Ph
to host the 25th Asia Pacific Dental Congress of th
This will be held at the Philippine International Co
Center (PICC), Manila on 24 April-May 01, 200
with the 95th Annual Convention and Scientific M
the Philippine Dental Association. The theme of the
is Quality Dentistry and Modern Tech

The Congress in the Philippines will be a most
opportunity for colleagues, as well as other countries to share their
in the Continuing Education and Scientific Programs to be prese
affair will showcase the latest in dental materials and technology th
various trade and commercial exhibitors. These activities will indeed c
to the progress and development of dentistry in the Asia Pacific Re
will help improve the promotion of oral health, prevention of oral dis
the clinical intervention brought about by oral diseases.

The Local Congress Organizing Committee is leaving no stone un
order to provide the delegates, accompanying persons and guests, a w
and intellectually profitable program of activities. The social prog
prepared tours of interesting places will enable the participants and
enjoy the culture and tradition of the Philippines from antiquity t
times. They will experience and see for themselves the various influ
blending cultures of the East and West.

We hope that our colleagues will take time out from their busy sch
take this opportunity to experience and feel the well-known warmth, fr
and hospitality of the Filipino people. Give us a chance to show th
You are all invited, you are all welcome.

MABUHAY!

Dean DIAMPO J. LIM, D.M.D., Dip. O.M.S.
Chairman, Local Congress Organizing Committee

Mabuhay!

The hierarchy of the Philippine Dental Association
to extend its sincere invitation to all its member de
those comprising the member nations of the Asia Pac
Federation to attend the 25th Asia Pacific Dental
in conjunction with the PDA 95th Annual Conve
Scientific Meeting from April 24-May 01, 20
Philippine International Convention Center.

The theme, Quality Dentistry and Modern Technology calls for
outlook for all member nations of the APDF to unify all efforts to
profession more responsive to greater challenges. As most countr
region have already joined the mainstream of worldwide progre
continuously accept this challenge for a better and brighter future of
This 25th APDC is another challenge and we have to go for it! A lot
events and activities are in store for all of us. Hear about dramatic adv
and the latest techniques and procedures through the wide array of
seminars and exhibitions. It is an important event you should

We hope to see everybody. We are counting on you.

LUIS D. UY, D.M.D.
President, Philippine Dental Association

The Philippine Dental Association in celebration
Annual Convention and Scientific Meeting on Ap
01, 2003 at the Philippine International Conventi
welcomes the honor of sharing with the Asia Paci
Federation its 25th Dental Congress on the sam
venue. Our participants and members shall be exp
most modern kinds of dental equipment, mat
technology through the different trade and commerc
as well as expertise made available by continuing
and scientific programs. In view of the emergence of many memb
aspiring to be the hosts, we are fortunate that these are being broug
year right at our doorsteps!

The Philippine Dental Association has likewise calendared for the who
of the convention activities that would jive and blend well with t
APDC. It is therefore my expectation that this year would be more f
rewarding to all of us. We are motivated by our strong commitmen
quality dental service with the patients, the community and ou
beneficiaries of efforts directed towards the promotion of oral health,
and cure of oral diseases. Accepting the challenge of working effec
our counterparts in the Asia Pacific Region and turning it into
learning experience as well as establishing friendly ties along the
make it one big accomplishment of our time"

The Filipino is hospitable, persevering and has unsatiable thirst for
Let the Filipino in us surface again. See you there

ARSENIO C. DONESA, D.M.D.
President-Elect, Philippine Dental Association

Greetings to the organizers and delegates of the
Pacific Dental Congress and the 95th Annual C
and Scientific Meeting of the Philippine Dental A

From the very beginning, Colgate's goal to hel
the world's oral health has gone hand in hand w
commitment to the dental profession. Today, the p
that grew out of that commitment extends to
of the profession – from the world's major den
and universities to clinics and private offices in neighborhoo
the world.

Colgate is especially proud to be of service in this special dental
The scientific program that will unfold in the coming week will sur
the transfer of knowledge and the continual advancement of denta
in the Philippines and in the whole of Asia Pacific

Rest assured that Colgate shall always play an active role in s
continuing dental education and training programs like these, in li
commitment to be your valued partner today and in t

ANTONIO CAMPOS-NETO
President and General Manager
Colgate-Palmolive Phils., Inc.

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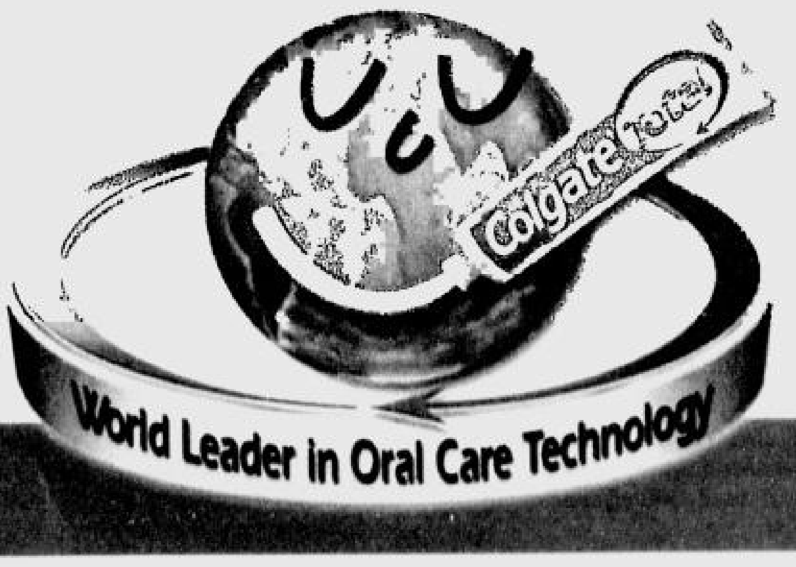
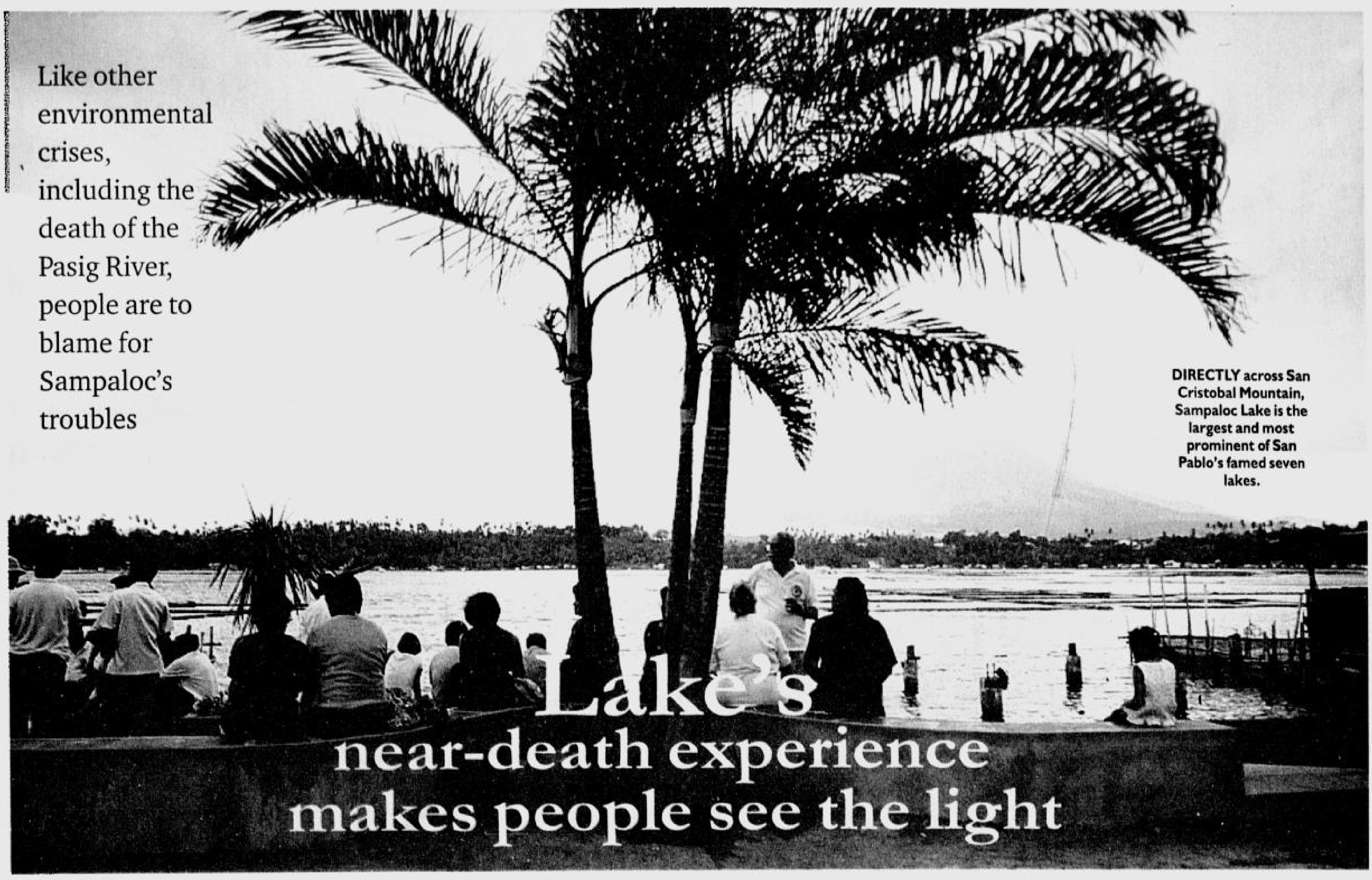

Colgate Total
World Leader in Oral Care Technology



Lake's near-death experience makes people see the light

Like other environmental crises, including the death of the Pasig River, people are to blame for Sampaloc's troubles

DIRECTLY across San Cristobal Mountain, Sampaloc Lake is the largest and most prominent of San Pablo's famed seven lakes.

Text by Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Joan Bondoc

IT didn't exactly die, but the transformation of Sampaloc Lake—the biggest of San Pablo's famed seven lakes and is right at the heart of the city—is almost as glorious as a rebirth.

What the lake actually went through was more of a near-death experience. And like in other near-death experiences, the people of San Pablo saw the light and decided to turn things around.

Initiated by private individuals, who organized themselves into the Samahan ng Pitong Lawa (SPL), the campaign to resuscitate and revitalize Sampaloc has drawn the support of the city government, the church and religious groups, and the fisherfolk who live and work around the lake.

So far, the campaign has managed to have restaurants and beer houses around the lake removed. Fish cages that occupied about 35 percent of the 104-hectare lake had been reduced to about 26 percent as of 2000. As the stench of garbage and dead water flora and fauna disappeared, promenaders returned. Seven small parks and a playground replaced the restaurants and beer houses.

By June, the relocation of the fishing families living along the coastline will start.

Like other environmental crises, including the death of the Pasig River, the blame for this one can be laid squarely at the people's feet. Overexploitation of the lake's resources, dumping of garbage and disregard for the effects of human activities very nearly killed Sampaloc.

The rescue of the dying lake, which started in the later part of the 1990s, was not easy. Eddie Mangubat, president of the Samahan ng mga Mangingisda sa Lawa ng Sampaloc, said it took a while before the 140 or so members of the association saw the wisdom of what the SPL was trying to do. But Mangubat, who set up his own 1,200 sq. m fish cage in the lake in the 1980s, knew that Sampaloc was in very serious trouble.

"There was a fish kill in 1990-91 because of so many fish cages. The mortality was high," he recalled. He said for about a year or a year and a half, they did not replenish the lake's fish stock, afraid it would only be an exercise in futility.

Until the SPL started to make waves, Mangubat said there were no regulations whatsoever governing the construction of fish cages in the lake. He set up his own very easily enough without getting any permits. The period 1989-95 saw the most number of fish cages in the lake but it also signaled the beginning of the end of a good thing.

Mangubat said following the fish kills, several cage owners lost money and abandoned their businesses, simply leaving the structures behind for the elements to get rid of. Today, the skeletons of those abandoned fish cages make the lake still unsuitable for water sports and other activities. The bamboo and nets create hazards for unsuspecting lake users.

People problem

But the fish cages were just part of Sampaloc's troubles. Apart from the restaurants and bars and the waste they generated that ended up in the lake, there were also all the squatters along the coast whose trash also got dumped into the water. This made for very "rich" water that favored the proliferation of water plants.

SPL members recalled that by the time their campaign got underway, the water could hardly be seen because of the luxuriantly growing water lilies. The association, having convinced the fisher folk by this time of the need to rehabilitate the lake, got the fishermen themselves to remove the water lilies, paying them for their efforts.

SEVEN parks and a playground have replaced the restaurants and beer gardens that used to ring Sampaloc Lake.

With the money it raised with the support of the Seven Lakes International chapters in the United States and Canada, the SPL went about cleaning up the lake. SPL's Mandy Mariño said the most significant step taken by SPL, in cooperation with San Pablo's Couples for Christ group, was to buy a two-hectare lot capable of taking in 180 families where lakeshore households would be relocated. The place keeps households far away enough from the lake but close enough for the fishermen to continue with their livelihood. Mariño said, at present, only 100 families would actually have to be relocated.

The relocated fisherfolk would amortize the land but the houses would be built bayanihan style—families working together. Arnold Acebron, city housing coordinator, said the relocation would start with 10 families in June. The families will then build the houses for the occupancy of the next group, which will work on the homes of the next group.

Mariño said, although the fishermen would still be able to continue with their current livelihood, alternative sources of income, particularly for other members of the family, would also be made available in the relocation site.

As a result of SPL's initiative, permits for fish cages started to be issued in 1998. Still the goal is to keep them to just about 10 per cent of the lake's area. Acebron said the lake would then be available mainly for open fishing and leisure activities.

The seemingly successful rescue of Sampaloc from certain death appears to have encouraged the San Pablo people to help the other lakes as well—Palakpakin, Mohicap, Bunot (the second largest), Calibato, Pandin and Yambo. Among the plans being considered is to make treks to the different lakes a tourist attraction. San Pablo seems determined to once again make its seven lakes a top tourist draw.

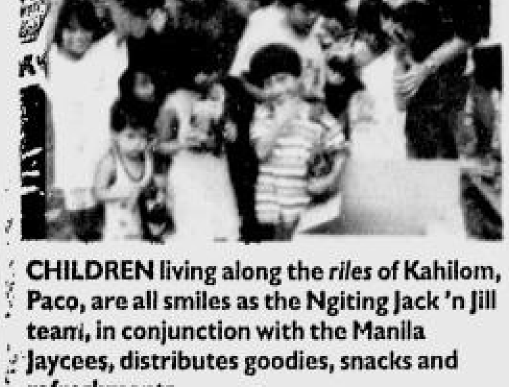
* * *

Email the author at linda@fatmails.com

Snacks company aids in youth projects

JACK 'n Jill, the food snacks company, treated more than a hundred poor youth to a free concert of the Quezon City Performing Arts Development Foundation recently at the Quezon City Memorial Circle.

The concert was in cooperation with the city government. The foundation is spearheaded by Joy Belmonte, daughter of Mayor Feliciano Belmonte, Jr.



CHILDREN living along the *riles* of Kahilom, Paco, are all smiles as the Ngiting Jack 'n Jill team, in conjunction with the Manila Jaycees, distributes goodies, snacks and refreshments.

The foundation aims to cultivate the inborn talents of poor youth in culture and the arts. Since 1994, dance leaders Eddie Elejar, Tony Fabella, and Luther Perez have been molding gifted and artistically inclined children from the city's poor by providing them with free training in the performing arts, cultivating in them discipline, hard work, right conduct, a sense of pride and confidence.

Through the "Ngiting Jack 'n Jill" project, the children can enjoy free snacks while training at the Amoranto Sports Complex.

Jack n' Jill also threw a gift-giving party for the Supplemental Feeding Program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and Kabisig ng Kalahi.

Jaycees in Parole, Tondo.

The project, sponsored by the Manila Jaycees, feeds malnourished children for six months. About 300 children from Barangay Kahilon, Paco also received Jack 'n Jill goodies and groceries from the Manila Jaycees.

STEVE Baltao, Jack 'n Jill brand manager (center), is flanked by Tony Fabella (left), artistic consultant of the Q.C. Performing Arts Development Foundation Inc., and children/dance scholars during a free concert held at the Q.C. Memorial Circle in cooperation with the city government.

The sound of music

From page I8

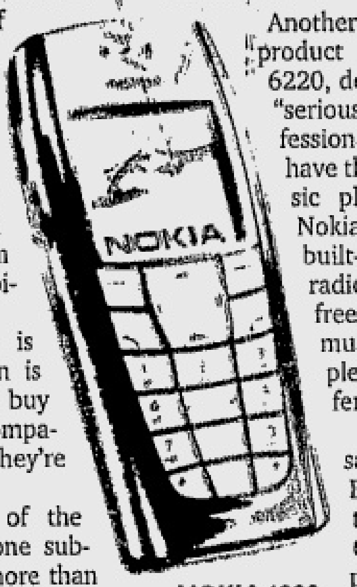
phone can play music for up to 11 hours and tune in to FM radio for up to nine hours.

And, hey, it's a phone, too, with up to three hours of talk time and standby time of 270 hours.

This new Nokia innovation has been received with enthusiasm by record companies around the world, which have recently taken the beating from pirates and Napster.

"Mobile Internet is different, distribution is much better. People buy and pay, and the companies get the money they're due," Salz says.

Considering that of the 480 million cell phone subscribers worldwide more than a third are below the age 25, the Nokia 3300 is definitely geared for a young, and young-at-heart market. "Chances are [the young subscribers] will consume contents that are more relevant to them, and those are certainly in the area of entertainment and games," says Universal Music Southeast Asia president Harry Hui. "Whether music is delivered wireless, online or through other channels, that remains an opportunity for our business to move forward," he says.


NOKIA 6220

'Serious' mobile

Another upcoming product is the Nokia 6220, designed for the "serious" mobile professionals. It may not have the coveted music player, but the Nokia 6220 has a built-in stereo FM radio with hands-free speakers for music listening pleasure or conference calls.

Andersson says the new EDGE connectivity of Nokia 6220 enables a powerful and faster browsing experience, messaging and content download faster than GPRS and most landline Internet connectivity.

"EDGE bridges the gap between second and third generations, and it will be integrated into majority of Nokia's upcoming handsets during the second half of this year," Andersson says. How fast? Twice as fast, with a maximum data speed of 118.4 kbps for speedy connection, increased efficiency for downloading large data files and richer graphical content via WAP 2.0 with XHTML browser.

It also features a 4,096-color, 128x128 pixel display camera and can send, receive and forward multimedia messages with image, text and audio clip. Plus, a video player that allows receiving and playback of videos. Synchronize personal data remotely to make backup files with SyncML. Mobile payment via WAP is safer with the data-encrypted, advanced wallet application. The Java technology allows the download of personalized applications, and the new presence-enhanced Chat function makes users make private chats and invite others to participate, and even join public chats with other mobile users or line Internet users.

Both models will be available in the country in the third quarter of this year. "Nokia is pushing the limit of mobility. We want to capture a significant share of the domains that are being created in imaging, entertainment and enterprise business," says Andersson.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

Easter dance in Batangas

GOINGS ON

EASTER Sunday in Rosario, Batangas comes alive with a rendition of Pagbati, a traditional prayer offering through dance performed immediately after the 6 a.m. Mass. The dance is a celebration of the triumphant meeting between a Risen Christ and the Blessed Mother performed to the tune of lively brass band music. For decades, Rosario town has been steadfast in its devotion to maintain the Pagbati as an Easter tradition.

Three young girls from the Abjelina family have been tasked to perform the Pagbati. Children of Arnel and Nonie Abjelina, Maria Paula, Anna Albina and Christa Maria will perform the dance. The performance is a sort of homecoming for the three girls, whose father grew up in the town known for its long and winding Holy Week processions and a massive, hillside grotto chronicling the trial and sufferings of Jesus Christ.

PHOTO CONTEST. The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation, Inc. will mark its 10th year on April 26 and 27 at Fort Santiago. There will be photo contests, exhibits, games, symposium, fashion shooting, and parades. A photo contest on religious and pseudo-religious practices is set. Deadline for submission of entries is on May 31, 2 p.m. Call 843-5341 and 813-7420.

COCKTAIL MUSICALE. The Friends for Cultural Concerns of the Philippines (FCCP) will host a cocktail musicale at the residence of H.E. & Mme. Raimo Anttola, Ambassador of Finland on April 28. Spearheading this affair is FCCP president Chloe Romulo-Periquet with Special Events Committee director Chit Gohu, and chairperson Fortune Ledesma.

SPECIAL EVENT. In celebration of its 28th anniversary, Farmers Market is holding a month-long celebration marked by weekly games, shows and parades around Araneta Center in Quezon City. A promo is ongoing until April 26.

WORKSHOP. Children may join Faber-Castell's free workshop on animation to be held in various branches of SM Supermalls. The three-day workshop on Filipino Animation, Japanese Animation and American Cartoons will begin April 24. Call 361-7391 to 92.

SEMINAR. The Center For Human Research and Development Foundation Inc. is holding a seminar-workshop on "Integrated Approach For Sound and Effective Records Management System in Barangay Offices" on April 21-22 at Barcelo Sarabia Manor Hotel and Convention Center, General Luna St., Iloilo City. There will also be a two-day seminar-workshop on Instructional Materials Writing (Textbooks, Journals, Modules) on April 28-29 at White House Filipino Grill, Cebu City. Call 927-9858.

WORKSHOP. The Cultural Center of the Philippines offers a wide range of courses and workshops in theater, music, dance, literature, visual arts, broadcast arts and film for children, teens and adults from April to May. Call CCP Performing Arts Department at 832-3657 and 832-1125; CCP Visual Arts, 832-3702; CCP Literature Division, 832-1125; CCP Film Division, 832-1125; PPO, 832-2314; Ballet Philippines, 551-1003/0221 and Tanghalang Pilipino, 832-1125.

BOOKFAIR. The Association of Booksellers for the Academe and Professions (ABAP) is inviting exhibitors to its 7th Academic Bookfair on July 14-18, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. at UP Bahay ng Alumni, Diliman, QC. Call 925-4572.

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Nestlé Carnation

The best for halo-halo!

Halo-halo dalicioso!

from Chef Fernando Aracama of UVA and CITRIO restaurants

9 cups shaved ice
cup red kaong, drained, reserve syrup
cup green nata de coco, drained, reserve syrup
1/2 cup macapuno balls, drained, reserve syrup
cup ube halaya
cup corn kernels
cup minatamis na pulang monggo
1 can CARNATION evap
6 scoops NESTLÉ halo halo flavor ice cream
1 cup NESTLÉ corn flakes

1. In six (6) bowls or tall glasses, equally divide the shaved ice, red kaong, green nata de coco, macapuno balls, ube halaya, corn kernels, monggo and the combined reserved syrups.
2. Pour the CARNATION evap over each glass. Add more if needed.
3. Top with a big scoop of NESTLÉ halo halo ice cream and cornflakes. Serve and enjoy!

YIELD: SIX (6) SERVINGS
PREPARATION TIME: 15 MINUTES

Nestlé Carnation RECIPEASE

The sound of music

By Anne A. Jambora

LIKE a curious scent that teases the nostrils and unlocks memories long forgotten, music moves the soul and unleashes emotions wedged deep within the heart, transcending the boundaries of race, culture, class, gender and age.

With over 100 million music devices sold worldwide every year—including MP3s, CDs, cassettes, radios, etc.—music goes beyond universal language. It is a consumer magnet as well. And Nokia wants a chunk of that market.

During a recent product launch in Hong Kong dubbed "Feel the Rush—Music Connects," Nokia Asia-Pacific SVP Robert Andersson says Nokia, known for its innovative cell phone products, is taking another great leap forward by incorporating state-of-the-art music technology into their products. "We are in a new era of mobility. Everything that can go mobile will go mobile," says Andersson.

Simply put, anything not made up of atoms and can be converted into bits will go mobile, from enterprise solutions to gaming, from imaging to music, from television to movies, and more. That means greater possibilities for a truly mobile lifestyle of the 21st century. "Nokia is no longer just a voice company," Andersson adds.

Mobile revolution

Music has been a part of everyone's everyday mobile life, even during the early stages of cell phone digital technology. Last year alone saw the ring tone services companies worldwide earn over $1.5 billion from downloaded ring tones, users participating in mobile voting and chatting for and about their favorite artists, and sending tunes to one another.

> Nokia says everything that can go mobile will go mobile–including music

NOKIA
NOKIA

NOKIA 3300

Today, Nokia is again set to revolutionize the digital mobile entertainment. Download your favorite tunes, rip CDs and enjoy the sound of True Tone technology—real music—that alerts users of, say, an incoming call with the music phone Nokia 3300. "It's going to be in mobile what MTV is to television," predicts business and IT writer Peggy Anne Salz.

The Nokia 3300 is a portable digital music player that supports MP3 and ACC files. Users can record up to two hours of music with files either transferred from a PC or recorded from the phone's built-in stereo FM radio. The phone has five-band graphic equalizer for pure music enjoyment.

True Tones, another first from Nokia, is not limited to songs. Nature sounds, special effects, a voice or engine sound, for instance, of a users' favorite motorcycle engine starting up, can also be recorded as alert tones.

Keypads are ergonomically designed for a comfortable two-hand use for the Java games, where one can also listen simultaneously to the music player or FM radio.

Additional tones, graphics and games can be accessed through a bookmark on the phone's mobile Internet browser. The

THE SOUND/17

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• De Dios Service Station, Kisad Rd., cor. Marcos Highway, Baguio City	0916-2175814
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Service available between April 16-20, 2003.

* Local calls only.

cut out for your reference

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

PUREFOODS
Ham

Romance of the army jeep

GREEN NO MORE. The Macalintals' World War II vintage jeep is now the color of the sky.

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

AS JEEPNEYS are slowly being relegated to the sidelines with the advent of faster, more dependable metro rail systems as Metro Manila's preferred means of mass transportation, its precursor, the World War II vintage jeep, is currently experiencing a rebirth among restorers the world over.

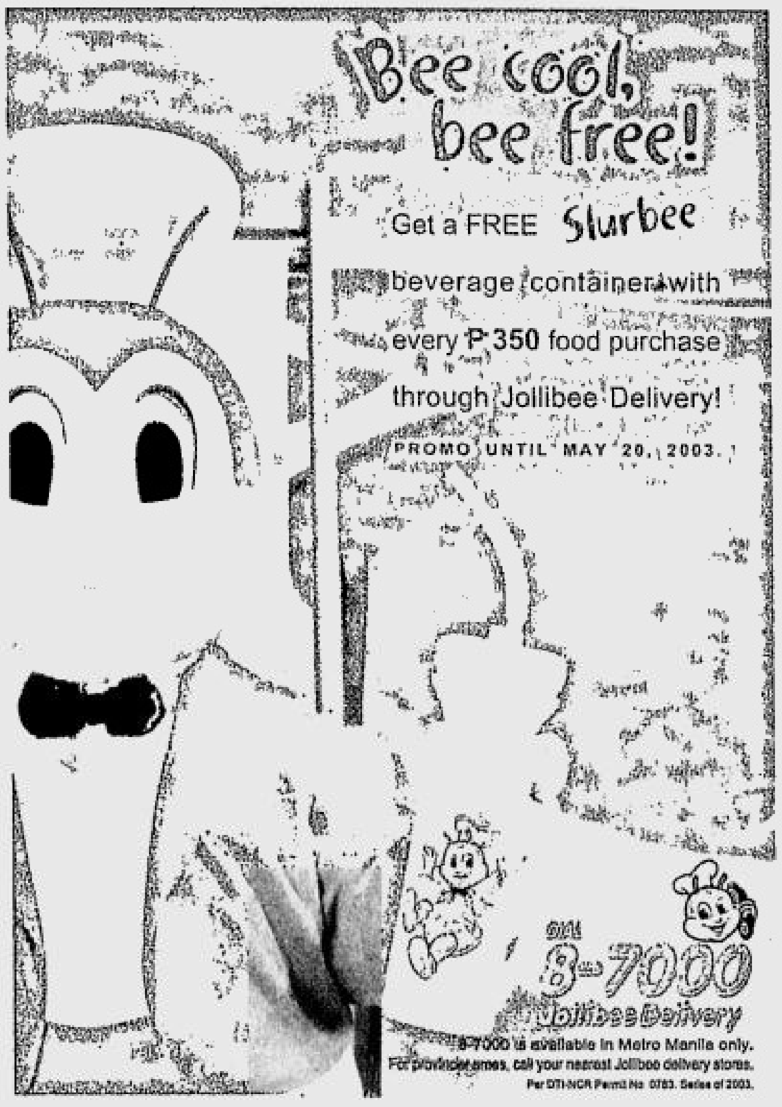
Considered the granddaddy of all SUVs, the army jeep (not to be confused with the "owner-type" jeep) is the very first four-wheel drive vehicle specifically designed by the American military to meet the rough terrain and the rigorous demands of war. The United States was said to have manufactured close to 600,000 jeeps during the last war.

"It's probably the mother of all restoration projects," says Rommel Juan, VP for marketing of MD Juan Enterprises and executive director of the Philippine Jeep Preservation Foundation. "Surprisingly, not too many Filipinos know that jeep restoration as a hobby is growing worldwide."

The foundation is affiliated with various clubs for jeep enthusiasts as far as Davao in the South, and Nueva Ecija and Ilocos Norte in the North. There are also clubs in Cebu, Bulacan and Pampanga, but ironically there's none in Metro Manila.

"The foundation's primary goal is to promote the hobby among would-be enthusiasts," says Juan, "and teach them how to restore their jeeps properly by providing them

ROMANCE/ J2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Romance of the army jeep

DOWN TO THE LAST SCREW. Except for its Isuzu engine and new sets of tires, every component found in this sand-colored jeep is of World War II vintage.

Filipinos are catching on the American obsession: restoring World War II vintage jeeps

From page J1

with the necessary parts."

Chito Macalintal, said to be the country's foremost expert on jeeps, is one such enthusiast. His love affair with the jeep dates back to the last war, when as an impressionable 13-year-old, he saw for himself for the first time an impressive fleet of American jeeps in Mindoro.

"We were literally running for our lives from the Japanese," he says. "My family and I fled from Batangas and reached Mindoro, where all those jeeps were stationed. So fascinated was I with jeeps, that I began reading up on the subject after the war."

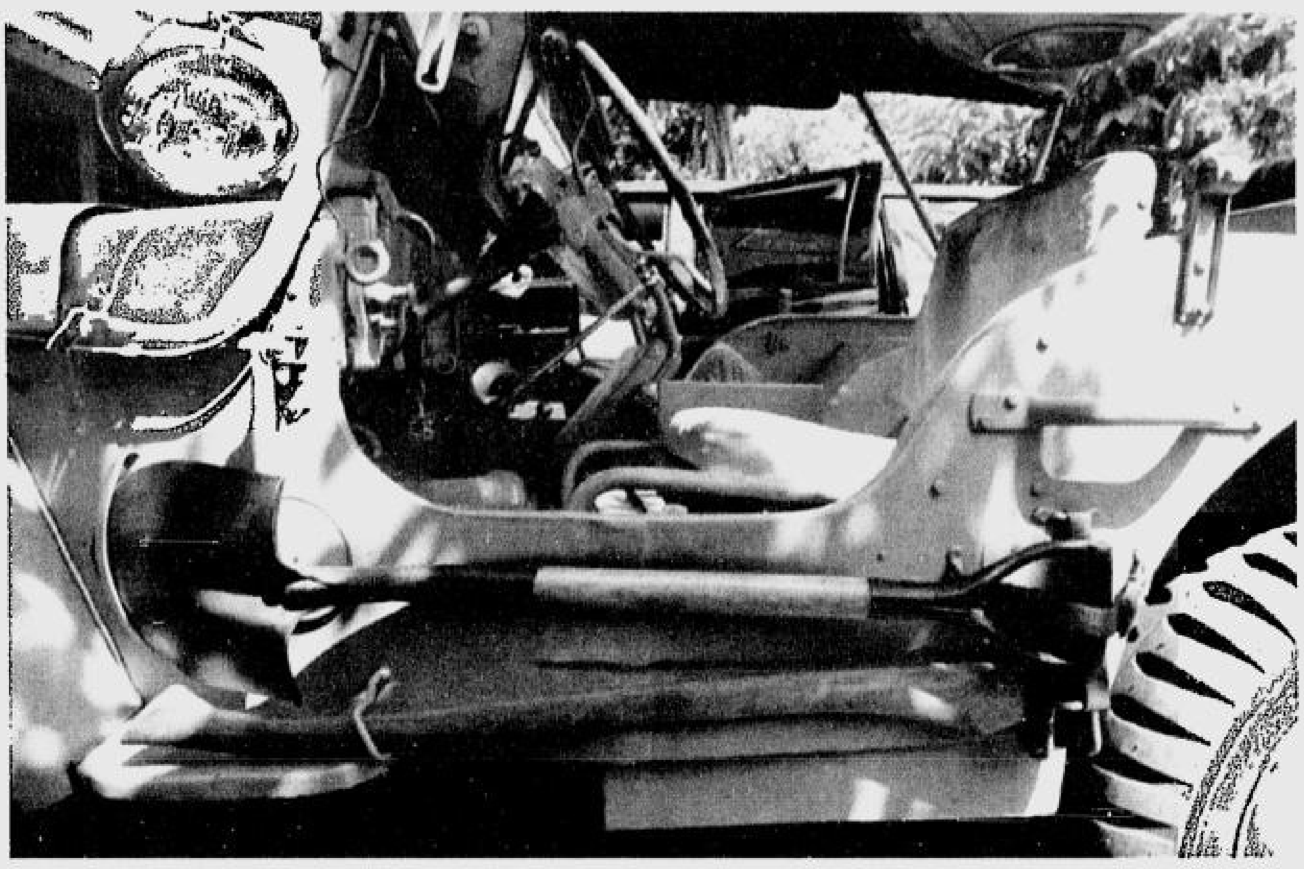
Love affair

The love affair didn't stop there. In 1948, Macalintal's dad bought and restored a used jeep by Ford, and it became the family car for several years. Ford and Willy's were foremost manufacturers of World War II jeeps.

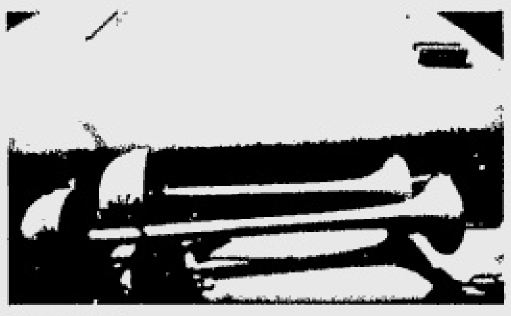
"We used the jeep through the years," he says. "It has been a dependable companion during family outings, and up to the time I began courting."

Thanks to the efforts Macalintal put into maintaining it, the family jeep is still in good running condition with an Isuzu diesel engine and a new set of tires. From canary yellow (vintage jeeps were painted army green), the prized possession is now the color of dessert sand.

There are also a few jeeps in various colors, brands and stages of restoration in the Macalintal garage in Greenhills.



PRACTICAL touches for a practical user



VINTAGE horns

GAF 312
PILIPINAS

BIG WILLY style

WORKING dashboard

Not content with restoring jeeps, Macalintal collaborated with a Japanese photographer and has written "Jeep, Jeep, Jeep," a picture book featuring restored World War II jeeps the world over.

There are as many types of jeep enthusiasts as there are jeeps. Macalintal, for instance, describes himself as the "practical" type. He has no qualms about driving his jeep once in a while, and making do with replacement parts whenever original parts are hard to come by.

"Each restorer possesses varying degrees of practicality as well," says Juan. "Some are simply content driving their jeeps occasionally, while others don't have any problem driving theirs everyday, anywhere."

On the other hand, there are also so-called "purists," who won't settle for anything less—down to the last screw. Due to the time and energy they've put into their jeeps, it's not surprising for their fascination to border on obsession. Even a speck of dust has no place on top of their masterpieces. Not a few of them are happy just to see and rub their jeeps like objects of their affection. (Imagine what their wives and girlfriends have had to compete with. Poor women.)

"These men belong to a subculture," says Juan. "Many of them are World War II history buffs bound together by their love for jeeps. Some are emotionally attached to their jeeps because they bring back fond memories."

But whether they're purists or practical restorers, these men (and a handful of women in the US) have one thing in common: they find ultimate joy restoring a ubiquitous vehicle that's now very much a part of America's, and probably of the world's, history.

"Especially now that Americans are experiencing a resurgence of nationalism, especially after 9-11," says Juan. "A restored military jeep, preferably with an aged veteran riding in it, has almost become de rigueur in parades in the US nowadays. Whether Filipinos like it or not, the jeep and later the jeepney have also become very much a part of our culture."

But not only is jeep-restoration an engaging hobby. What many Filipinos don't know is they can also derive huge profits from it. A run-down jeep worth P60,000 can fetch up to $15,000 to $20,000 abroad, particularly in the United States. A restorer needs to shell out at least P150,000 to restore a vintage jeep to its former glory.

Vintage engines

There are still plenty of vintage engines around, says Juan. Of course, if the restorer isn't picky, he can always settle for a trusty Isuzu diesel engine. But what does he do about a rusty fender, a corroded under chassis, a crooked grille and a hood that has seen better days?

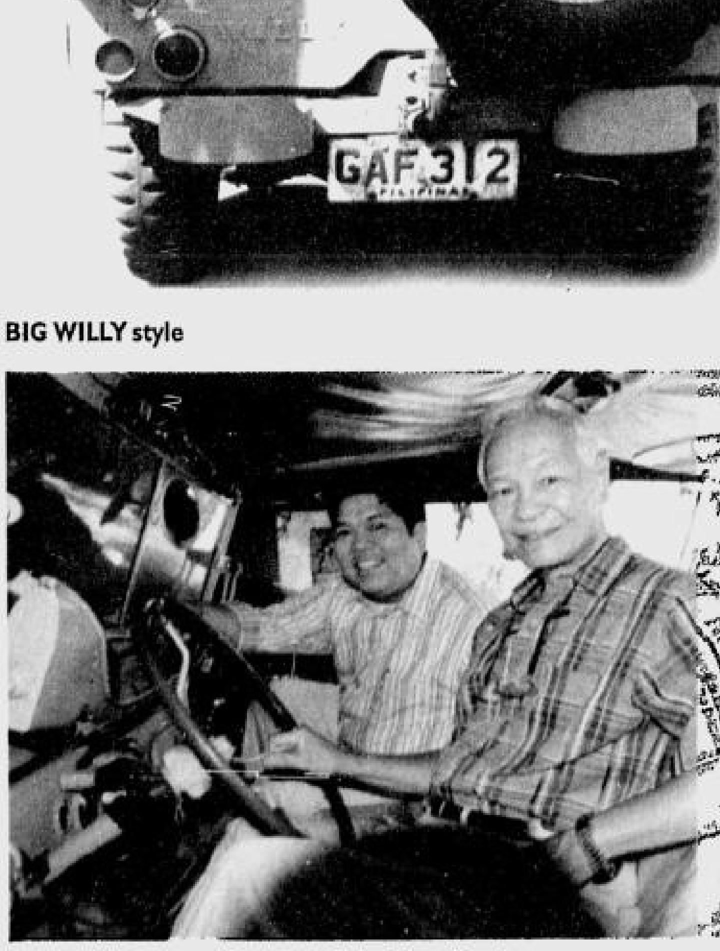
As the world's exclusive supplier of jeepney parts—anything involving the vehicle's body, DM Juan offers enthusiasts the world over with a steady supply of these items. Aside from providing them with the needed components, DM Juan, through its extensive international network, helps match restored vehicles with interested buyers abroad.

"It all started with my grandfather who imported surplus jeeps for the local market," says Juan. "When our sources in the US began to dry up, we started importing surplus engines. It was only a matter of time before we started manufacturing the jeep's body for the world market—a market niche not even other countries like China would dare touch."

Now, if only the whole world were that enthusiastic about our homegrown but beleaguered jeepney.

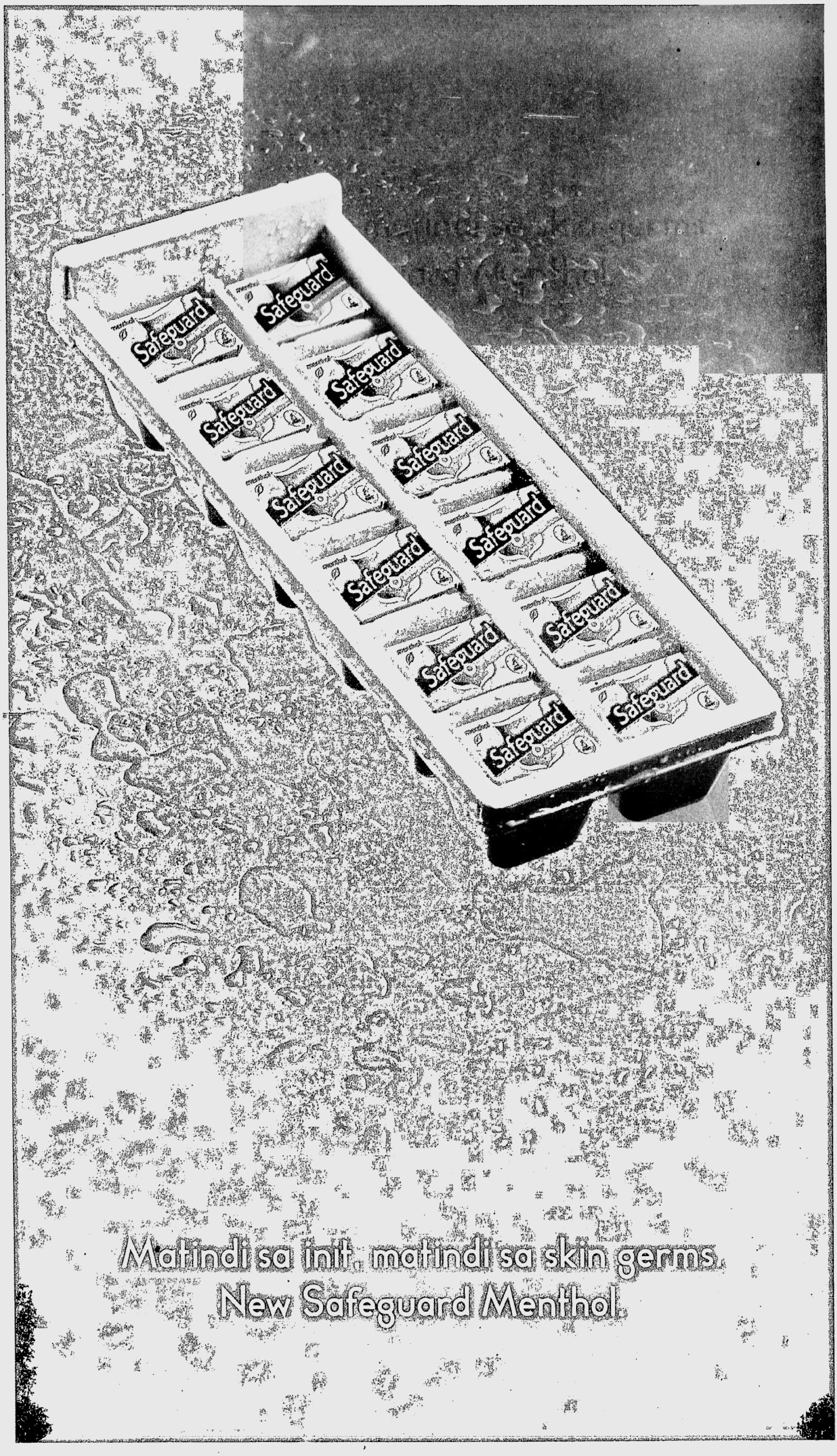
For inquiries, call the Philippine Jeep Preservation Foundation at tel. 5225165 or MD Juan Enterprises at tel. 523-0596 and 536-3148

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph



JOY RIDE. Rommel Juan and Chito Macalintal

THE PAJERO'S granddad?


Safeguard
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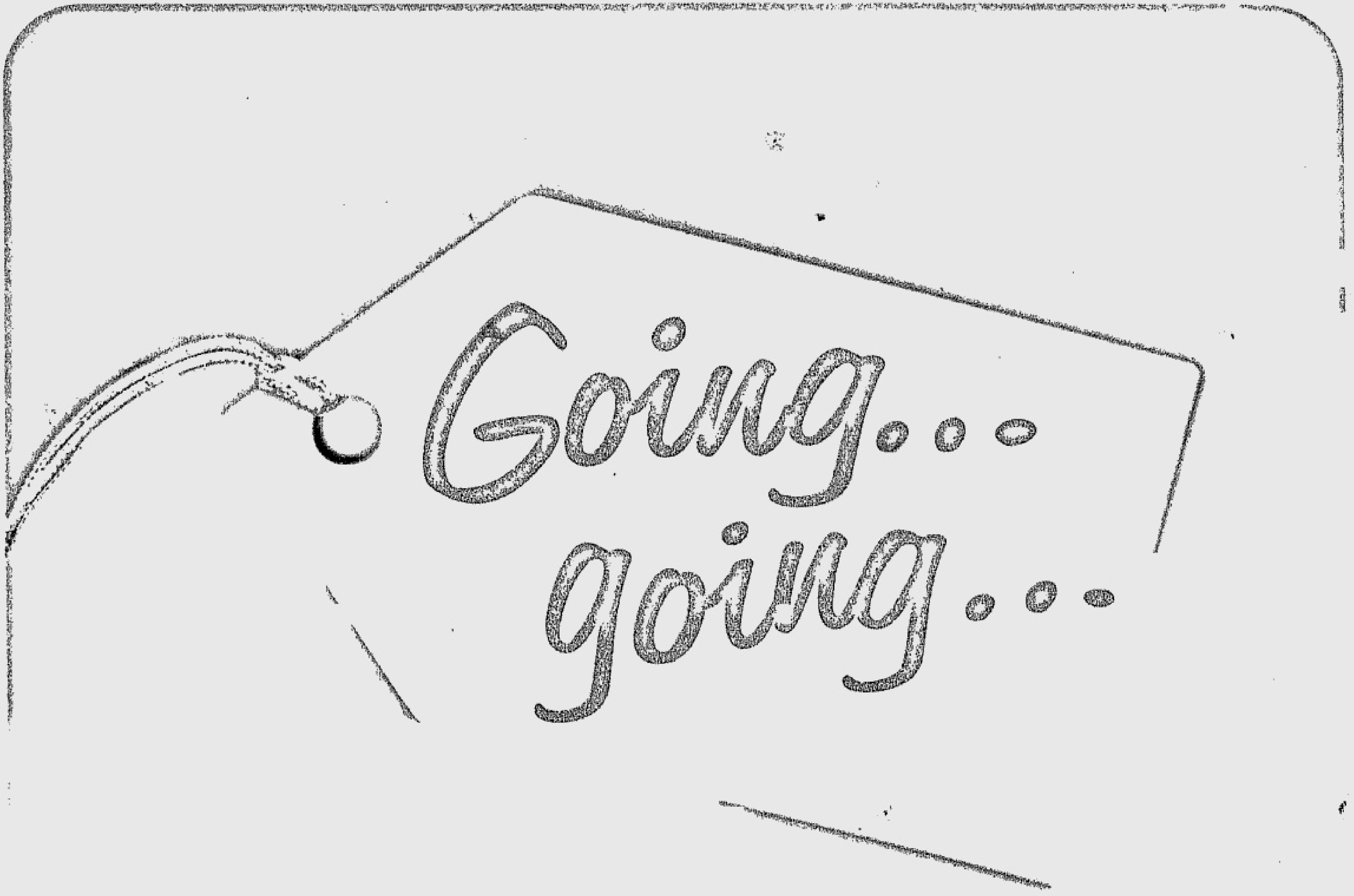
New Safeguard Menthol.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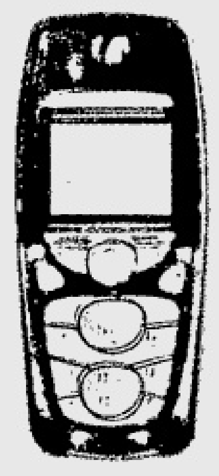
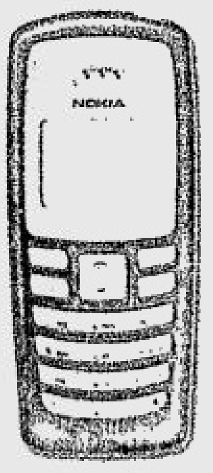


NOKIA 3530
₱ 7,990

NOKIA 3510
₱ 5,590



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POSTPAID HANDSET RATES

HANDSETS	NEW SUBSCRIPTION				SWITCHING			
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Panasonic GD88	23,000	19,000	7,500	FREE	20,750	16,500	FREE	FREE
Nokia 7250	21,000	13,000	5,000	FREE	18,750	9,000	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson P800	32,750	25,000	18,000	FREE	30,500	21,000	12,000	FREE
Nokia 8910i	31,500	22,000	15,000	FREE	29,000	18,000	9,000	FREE
Nokia 3530	3,500	FREE	FREE	FREE	3,500	FREE	FREE	FREE
Panasonic GD55	4,500	2,250	FREE	FREE	2,750	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 3650	18,850	4,000	FREE	FREE	17,500	FREE	FREE	FREE
Siemens S57	17,250	14,500	7,500	FREE	14,500	11,000	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6610	16,000	3,000	FREE	FREE	15,000	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 2100	1,750	FREE	FREE	FREE	500	FREE	FREE	FREE
Motorola T190	1,250	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson T100	2,000	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson T200	5,000	2,750	750	FREE	2,750	1,750	FREE	FREE
Nokia 3510	2,750	FREE	FREE	FREE	2,750	FREE	FREE	FREE

Prices reflect 24-month holding period, 12-month pricing available upon inquiry. Handset prices for Plan 250 include Registration Fee of ₱1,250.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

VICKY Zubiri, Bianca Zobel and Maricris Zobel

Lent fails to dampen fashionistas' spirit

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

THINGS start to slow down before Holy Week as the temperature rises. But that didn't stop the fashionistas and the chroniclers of Philippine trends and events (read **Irene, Anton, Maurice** et. al) from having an evening of fun and surprises at Greenbelt 3 Park courtesy of Ayala Center.

Participating labels were Bulgari, Carbon, Celio, Hugo Boss, Mix, Paul Smith, Tyler, Wink, and, from Store Specialists: DKNY, Jessica, Episode, AK and Bally.

(One fashion icon was overheard telling another about a third: "She's wearing Greenhills around her neck," referring of course, to the beads and bangles of the Virra Mall *tiangge*).

***

If you didn't know before now you do: the Right Honorable Lord Mayor of the City of London heads a corporation dating back to 1067 that governs the capital of the United Kingdom. It was Richard the Lionhearted, however, (the movie starred Peter O' Toole or was it Richard Harris?) who made London a commune way back in 1191.

Several hundred years later, **Alderman Gavyn Arthur** MA, the current Lord Mayor and chair of the Court of Aldermen and of the Court of Common Council, visited the Philippines.

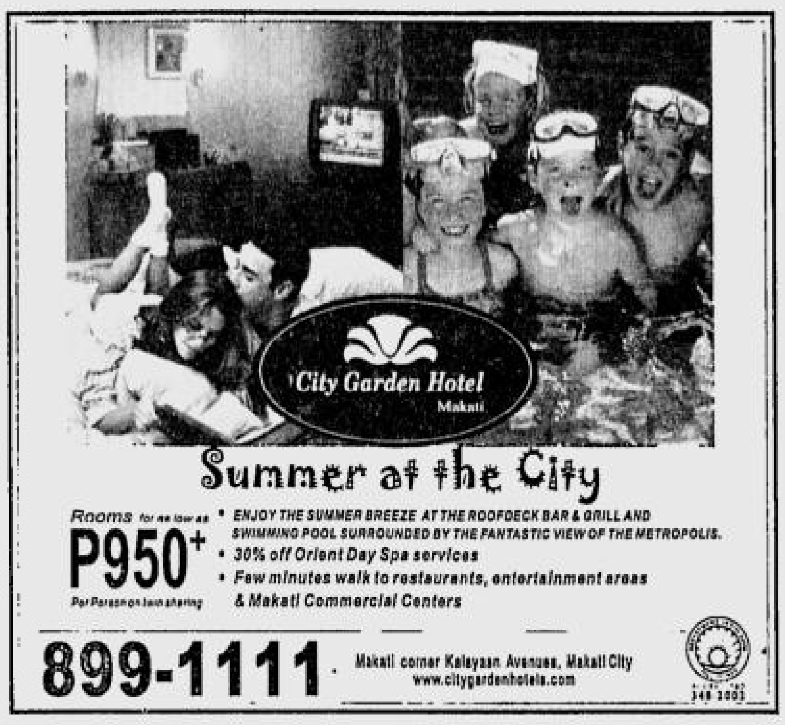
He landed on our friendly shores two weeks ago. The British Embassy and Ambassador **Paul Dimond** played host to the Lord Mayor as well as to the Mayoress, **Carole Blackshaw,** and representatives of London-based financial institutions who had joined the party.

The Lord Mayor's program included a lunch hosted by President **Gloria Macapagal Arroyo** at Malacañang Palace and meetings with key Philippine government officials. A major reason for the London official's visit was the insurance seminar organized by Trade Partners UK and the

LENT/ K2

POPS Fernandez

ANTON San Diego



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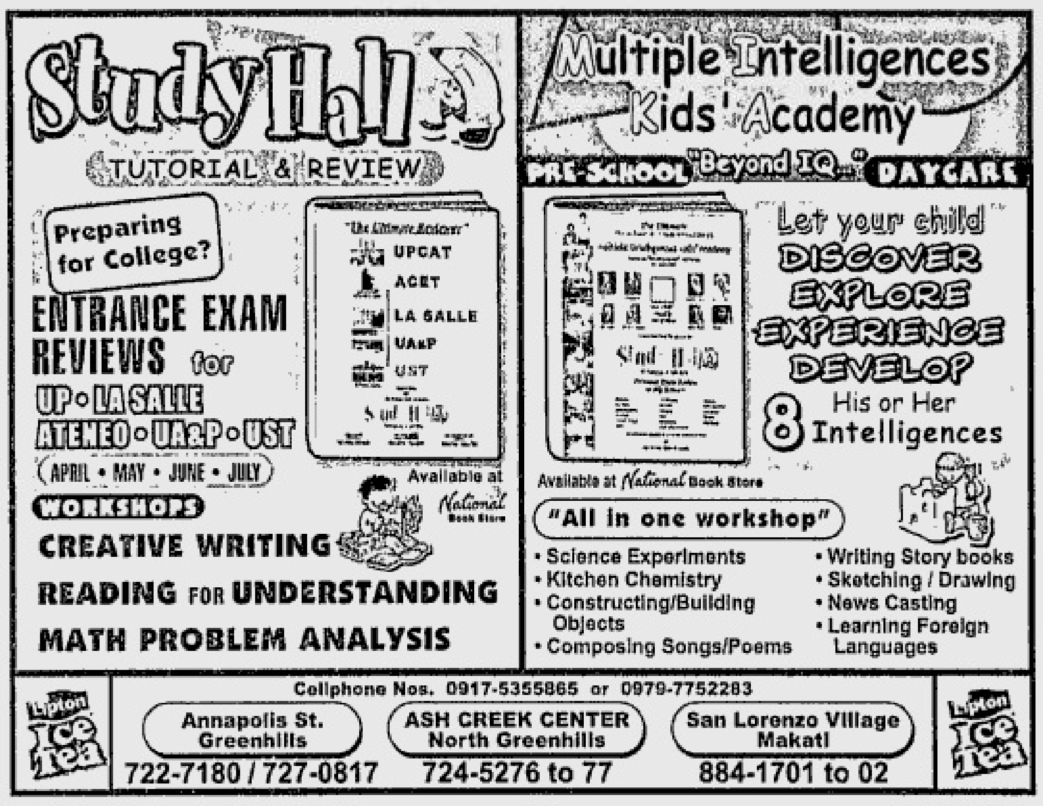

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Nadale ang Sarap!

Karagdagang benepisyo para sa mga workers.

Ito at iba pang isyung may kinalaman sa pagkakaroon ng matibay at malusog na katawan ang pinag-uukulan ng pansin ng mga tuna experts. Bukod daw sa Omega 3 na mabuti para sa puso ay marami pang karagdagang health benefits. Lalong lalo na kung ito ay mula sa sariwang tunang agad-agad idinelata. Malaman pa at higit sa lahat ay busog ka at ang buong pamilya.

DIANA
TUNA
Nadale ang Sarap!

Sa wakas, nahuli na rin ang big fish!
Ayon na rin sa mga kinauukulan, matagal rin nilang hinintay ang balitang ito. Ayon sa ilang eye witness ay galak na galak sila sa pagkakahuli ng tuna.
Ito ang sarap ng sariwang tunang agad-agad idenelata, kaya naman huling-huli rin ang sarap. Malaman na, siguradong busog ka pa! Ang tuna ay may sustansiyang naidudulot sa ating katawan. Siksik ito sa Omega 3 na makakatulong sa pagbawas ng cholesterol.

Sariwang-sariwa
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BRITISH Amb. Paul Dimond and Hon. Alderman Gavyn Arthur

PHOTOS BY BETOY JOHNSON

BRIAN Murray, Roy Pavey and Freddie Borromeo

Lent fails to dampen fashionistas' spirit

From page K1

Insurance Institute of Asia and the Pacific at the Shangri-La Hotel.

***

International Women's Day, which honors women's struggle for the elimination of poverty, gender-based inequality and violence, was marked recently at the Polo Club by Unifem (United Nations Development Fund for Women) and Zonta Foundation Philippines. Keynote speaker **Maria Ressa** (CNN's first female correspondent and currently Asia bureau chief) talked about her struggle in a field dominated by men. INQUIRER's own **Rina Jimenez David** and **Domini Torrevillas** of the Philippine Star gave their reactions.

Unifem's Philippine Committee is headed by **Olga Severino Martel** (chair) and **Georgitta Puyat** (president). **Erlinda Panlilio** chairs Zonta while **Herminia Fajardo** is president.

***

Seen at the premiere night of Ballroom Dancing at the Le Boulevardier in the Inter-Continental Manila: Philippine Star's **Grace Glory Go, Tessa Prieto-Valdes, Snooky Taylor Lokumal, Marvie Cojuangco Yulo** and other twinkle toes (you know what I mean). It's going to be a regular Monday night feature at the hotel with dance diva **Becky Garcia** displaying her terpsichorean skills as host.

GUILLERMO Luz and Eliseo Santiago

MARY Prieto and Irene Martel

ANTONIO Villegas

JESUS Tambunting

KESSARA Arnold

AURORA Lapus de Sagaz

ELENA Colesanti

RUBY Co, Tessa Prieto-Valdes, Becky Garcia, Vivian Uy and Jocelyn Poon

OLGA Severino Martel and Maria Ressa

ROBERTO Romulo and Cesar Buenaventura

JEANNIE Goulbourn, Cecille and Louie Ysmael

JUTI Thorogood and Carolyn Dimond

TONY Abad, Bo Ros and Boogy Trinidad

THE CANDIDATES of Ms Tropical Bodies 2003

Intimate apparel for model tilt participants

FASHION designer Armando Fabia's resort wear takes center stage in the ongoing Mr. and Ms Tropical Bodies Model Quest 2003 being held weekly at Spirits Malate Coyote Bar. The search is now on its third week.

With a different collection showcased every week, Fabia's "dressed for the beach" resort wear concept takes on a varied color palette of white, beige, sand, khaki, slate blue, and pastels.

A UST Fine Arts graduate, Fabia also took up fashion and merchandising in Tokyo, translating into seven years of experience in wedding gowns, formal wear for men and women, and trend-setting swimwear. Late last year, Fabia started venturing into lounge wear and lingerie, which he describes as "high glamour for the bedroom sensuality and sexiness without being vulgar."

Armando Fabia's atelier is located at 1082 P. Campa St., Sampaloc, Manila. Fabia's resort wear can be described as very light and quite suitable for a tropical country such as ours. They definitely look good on the contestants of Mr. and Ms Tropical Bodies 2003 who parade in them every week.

The Mr. and Ms Tropical Bodies 2003 Model Quest 2003 will continue until August. Weekly winners will receive cash prizes and gift certificates, with consolation prizes for non-winners.

Call 816-4245 or telefax 812-7566, or (0916) 569-5543.

Summer fun at theme park

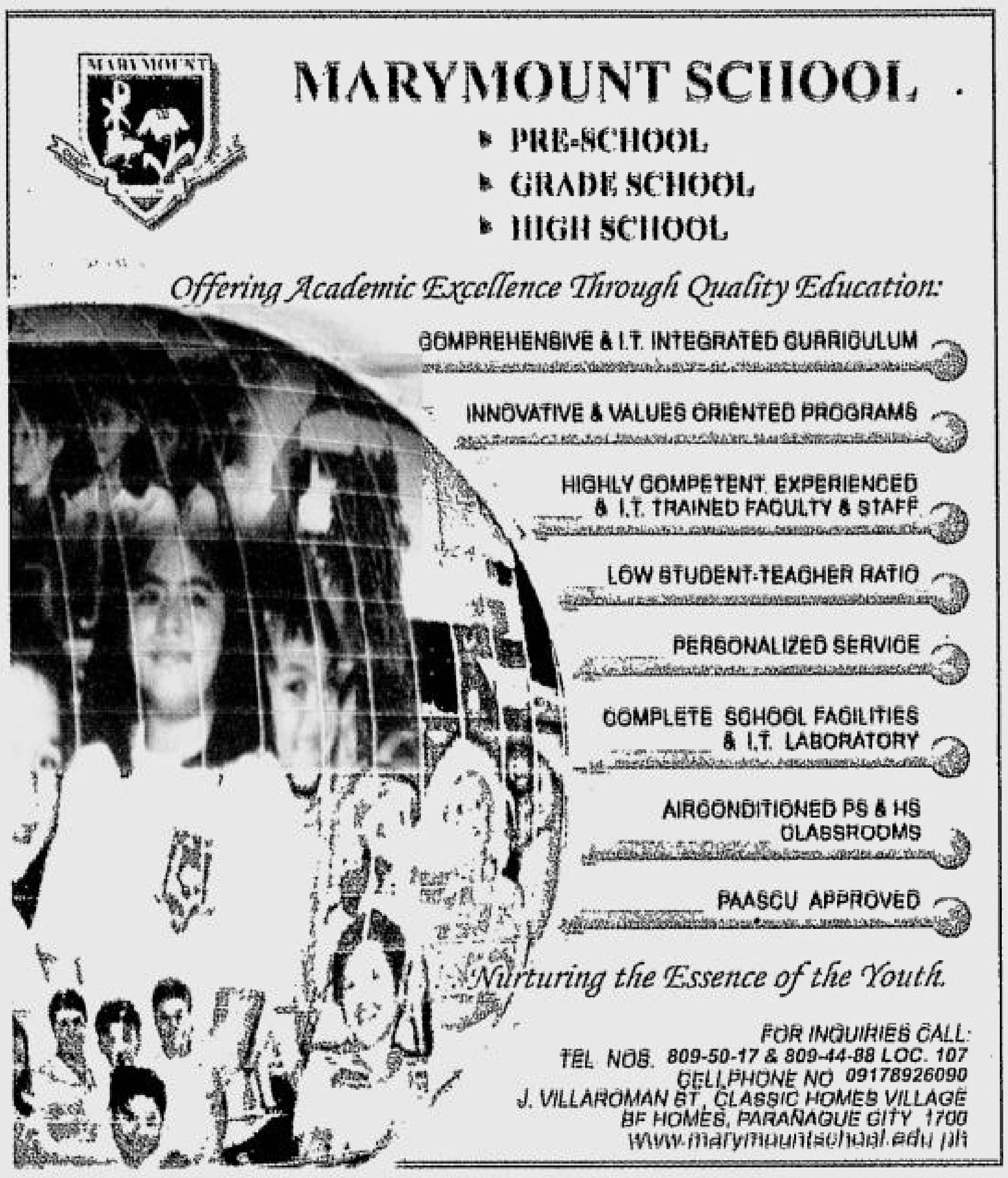
THIS summer, Enchanted Kingdom is open seven days a week.4Operating hours until June 1: Monday-Friday, 2 p.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Holiday schedule: April 20 (Easter Sunday), 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; May 1 (Labor Day), 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; May 17 and 24, closed for private functions.

Enchanted Kingdom shuttle bus schedules until June 1: weekday, from Ayala Center Makati bus terminal to EK—1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.; from EK to Ayala Center Makati bus terminal—8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; weekend, from Ayala Center Makati bus terminal to EK—10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.; from EK to Ayala Center Makati bus terminal—7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Special events schedule: 8th Annual Fireworks Competition (8 participating groups to light up Enchanted Kingdom's 8th anniversary) on April 26, 7-9 p.m.; Celebrity Storytelling featuring Aiko Melendez (April 26) and Anjo Yllana (April 27), and other famous stars every weekend until June 1; Crush Gear Competition, April 20 and 27, May 4 and 11, 4-6 p.m. Schedule of concerts: Prime Council with Aliyah Parcs, April 26, 5:30-7 p.m.; Magic 89.9 Concert featuring Acafellas, May 3, 5:30-7 p.m.

Shopping and food promos: Summer Bazaar on April 20-May 20; Free Ride-All ticket (valid on June 7-Sept. 30) with every P500 worth of food and merchandise purchased on April 7-June 1.



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Mail your entry to P.O. Box 1977 Makati Central Post Office 1259 Makati City, Philippines or drop them at dropboxes located at the following addresses:

Campaigns & Grey - Great 202 Quest
12/F Valero Tower, Valero St. Salcedo Village, Makati City

GamePlan - Great 202 Quest
13 Matipid St. Sikatuna Village, Quezon City

Deadline for submission of entries is on April 28, 2003.

Catch the four thrilling episodes on GamePlan, June 21 and 28, July 5 and 12, 7:00 PM on Studio 23. For more information, call (02) 922-9273 or log on to www.gameplan23.com

DOH-BFAD Permit. No. 0054. Series of 2003.

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2. Mag-Celle-babad. Tumawag (₱6.50 /min. cell to cell and cell to local landline, ₱9.50 /min. NDD, $0.40 /min. IDD), Mag-Voice Message (₱3.00 /min.), Voice Info (₱3.00 /min.) at Karaoke (₱2.50 /min.). Every 1 minute on your TouchMobile is equivalent to 1 electronic raffle entry.
   Kaya: 2 min. calls = 2 electronic raffle entries; 3 min. calls = 3 electronic raffle entries.
3. Touch Mobile Celle-babad Raffle Promo is from April 21 to June 15, 2003

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See flyers for more details.

*Only charged voice calls will be valid for this promo. All calls to 801, 802, 808 and other toll free numbers are not qualified as entries.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0873. Series of 2003.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Hail the Mt. Pulag conqueror—and her 3 porters

Three hefty men carried the food, the feather boas and the Charmin toilet paper

STORY ON PAGE L2

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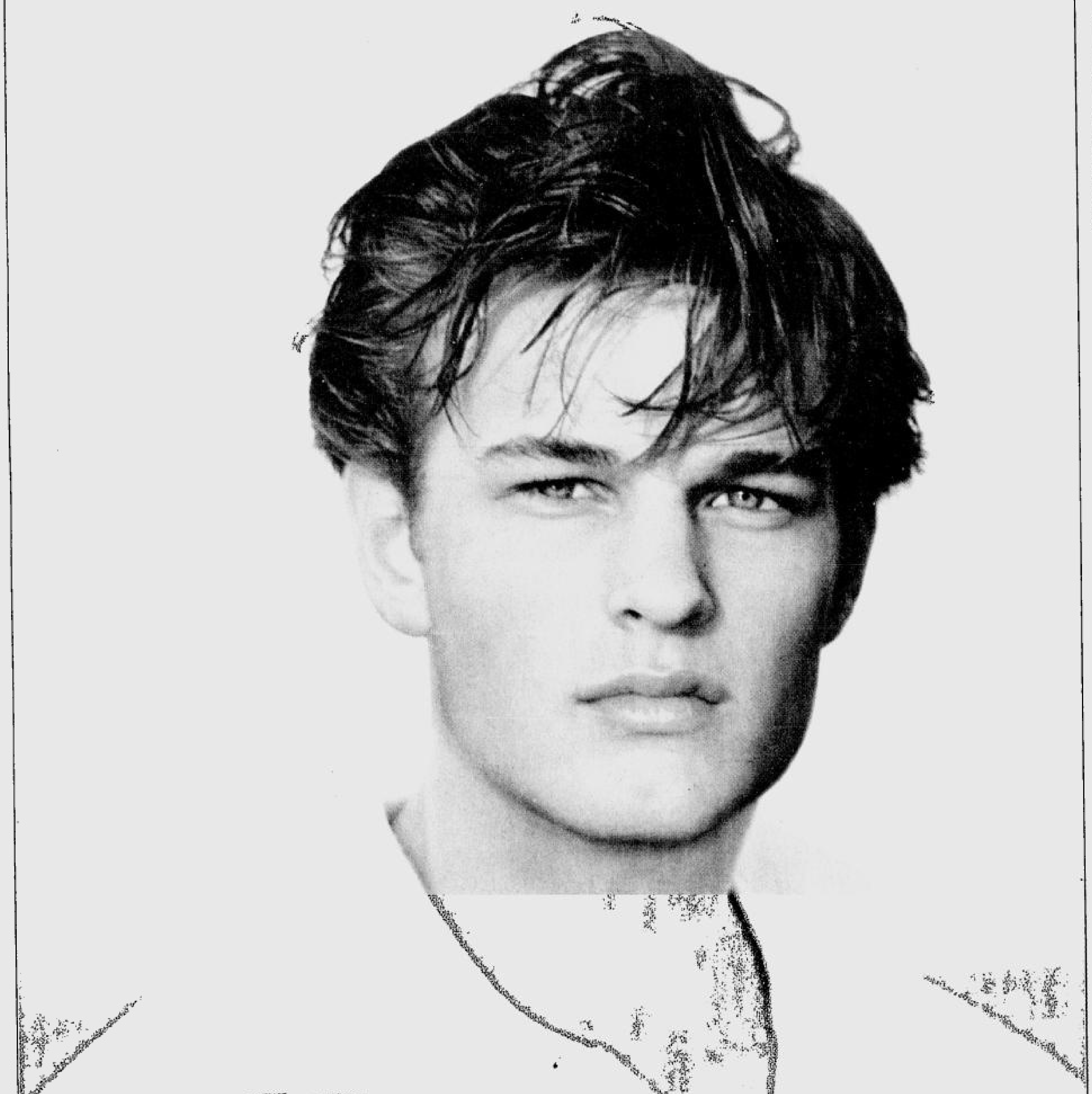

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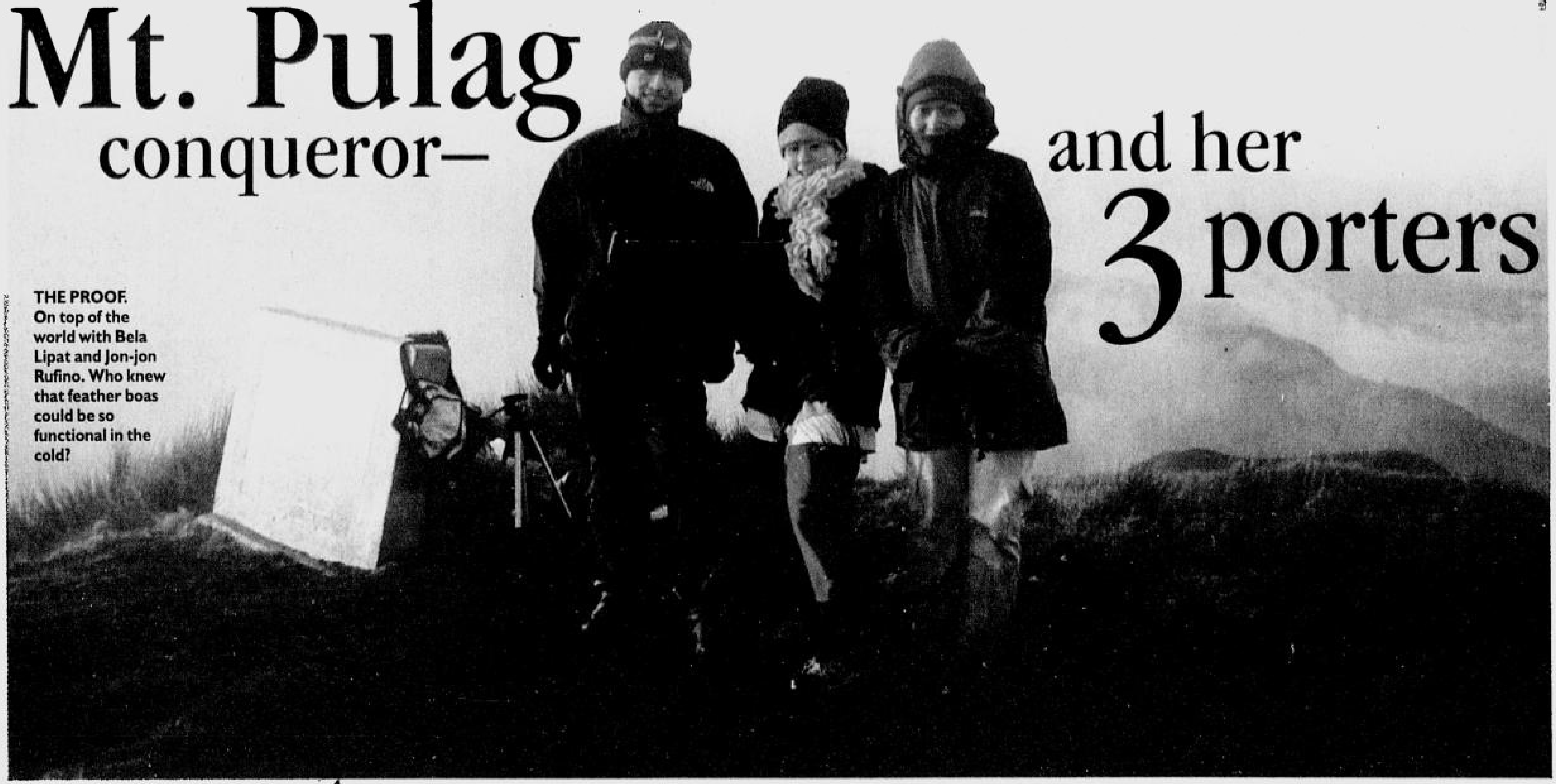
Hail the Mt. Pulag conqueror— and her 3 porters



THE PROOF. On top of the world with Bela Lipat and Jon-jon Rufino. Who knew that feather boas could be so functional in the cold?

By Tessa Prieto Valdes

HOW does one survive a climb of Mt. Pulag, the highest peak in Luzon and second only to Mt. Apo in the Philippines? Well, I was able to do it so it can be done. Let me tell you how.

Just to give you a clue of the amount of traveling/trekking this adventure entails, here is a short list:

For urbanites, start with a midnight car ride to Baguio (provide lots of coffee for the designated driver, especially if you're going straight from a social event). From the City of Pines, the Ranger Station at the base of Mt. Pulag is another three hours of really frightening, edge-of-the-cliff driving on rough roads.

Carrying camping gear, travel has then to be done on foot from the Ranger Station. The initial three-hour uphill climb through a mountain trail is quite challenging but not too steep. The designated camp site is where mountaineers set up their gear and tents to spend the night. At the crack of dawn, it's another hour-long climb to the peak where you are rewarded with a blazing sunrise viewed from above cloud level.

But is it worth all the pain and aggravation, especially if the weather conditions are not in your favor? For city slickers like me, the answer is still a big, big "Yes." Let me share my Pulag experience with you.

Preparing the proper gear for such an expedition is important to a successful trip. It's advisable to borrow most of the items, unless you intend to really get into the whole world of camping (which, may I remind you, involves making "No. 2" in the wilderness.)

The late **Paco Ortigas** was a large man (God bless his soul), hence his huge, two-person tent, which I borrowed. My backpack, sleeping bag and flashlight were provided by my cousin, **Marisun Uichico**. For the crucial North Face jacket and walking stick, a good friend, **Anna Angara**, lent me what she used when she did a four-day trek to Pulag.

With so many sources for all the equipment, you can imagine the difficulty of color-coordinating all my borrowed gear!

HOME FOR A BIG MAN. My porter cleans out the tent that sheltered me from the cold and rain on Luzon's highest mountain.

A HOME for little people in the mountain. Frodo and Sam could do no better in the Shire.

Mt. Pulag
National
Park

WILLIE and Marimil Villareal at Salud Restaurant in Baguio

JOVY and Raffy Yupangco at Salud

Chauvinist vendors

For my all-important hiking boots, I went shopping in Park Square. There, I found myself in unfamiliar ground. There were more men than women in the store, all shopping for sports equipment. I tried to scout around for my boots but realized there were none. Can you imagine that these vendors believe only men go hiking? So unfair! But once a store stocks designer foot gear, I will be sure to be the first to grab a pair.

After settling for rubber shoes that could double as hiking shoes, I bought a couple of waterproof pants, camping tools and a dozen bottles of "energy water." I didn't have any idea what they put in the drink but I liked the packaging and thought the water might help me survive the climb. With all that stuff, everything was too heavy to carry so a man from the store helped me bring them to my car.

Traveling light is not my forte. But thinking of the climb really makes one pack sparingly. But, of course, that didn't stop me from having three full sets of accessories for the anticipated photo op at the peak.

With call time at midnight at **Jon-jon Rufino**'s house, we packed the gear into his Defender SUV, leaving enough space for him to sleep in the back. Together with the Carpo sisters, **Leica** and **Amanda**, and our yoga master, **Bela Lipat**, we headed north with only one pit stop before hitting the zigzag road.

Though Baguio was pleasant, we only stayed a couple of hours before continuing the journey. I took an herbal sleeping pill so I could get some shut-eye. Fortunately, I slept through the really rough, "fat-shaking" drive through unpaved roads right next to the cliffs. I only realized this on the way back, screaming in fear all the way back to Baguio. Thank goodness for the experience of **Cesar Bruguera**, our veteran driver!

Half-dazed and half-asleep, we passed by the DENR Visitor's Station to watch their obligatory video presentation and pay our camping fees. It was nice to see something in our government working properly, in this vital area of conservation of our natural resources. We now reached the most difficult part of Pulag—the hike itself.

Before I agreed to go, I made sure there were mountain porters. I have to admit I am no "Sheena, Queen of the Jungle." So I hired three hefty men (with sturdy legs like those horses in Wright Park) to carry my things—the food, the feather boas and the Charmin toilet paper—to Base Camp.

Weakest link

Sporting my brand-new hiking shoes and holding my energy water for security, I was off! Despite being the weakest link in the group, I was able to keep up since the rest were carrying their gear. But half-way, Bela and Leica got my "sherpas" to help. At least my accessory helpers became useful to the group.

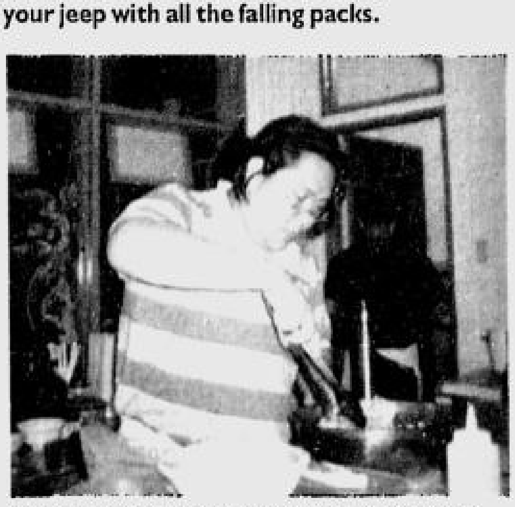
Just when we reached the camp site—cold, tired and hungry—it started to rain. I was beginning to feel that it was a very bad idea to think I could survive the great outdoors. And I thought my only problem would be digging my own toilet. A major headache hit me while watching the porters set up the huge tent, which took them over 30 minutes. By now, we were all drenched and starving.

Jon-jon, the only true mountaineer of the bunch, cooked a gastronomic dish of pasta with Portobello mushrooms and risotto with asparagus right outside his one-man tent. Everything made from scratch—this guy is just unbelievable. I was so hungry, I didn't mind eating from the cover of the pan. We ate at sunset in the worst conditions possible. Fortu-

HAIL/L3

THE GOOD thing about yogis is that they can fit into really small places, like the trunk of your jeep with all the falling packs.

NINA Tesoro Poblador, serving the bar with style.



CHEF and owner Paul Poblador imparts his personal touch on all the dishes of Salud.

THE EXPEDITION TEAM. The Sea Princess, Bela Lipat, Jon-jon Rufino, Amanda Carpo and Leica Carpo.

DUSK in Boracay

Flying like the rich and famous

From page L4

A South Phoenix flight carries drinks and snacks to keep you going until you land. And to keep you entertained, if you don't want to spend the flight catching up on your sleep, they have a selection of musical tapes and digital video discs (DVD), or you can make a request, that they can play on board.

The price tag for this flying convenience is P25,000 per hour. But Rivera says flying in a fixed-wing aircraft, like a Cessna, is faster and cheaper than going by helicopter, a popular choice among executives in a hurry. Subic, a favorite destination of businessmen, can be reached in 30 minutes compared to 40 by chopper. The 10-minute difference also spells the difference in costs between the two crafts.

Aware that some people are uncomfortable with the idea of flying in a small plane, Rivera, a pilot who has logged some 900 hours of flying time, gives the assurance that South Phoenix's craft is always in tip-top shape. He says they just finished a major upgrade of equipment in the Cessna 421 at a cost of P10 million to install the latest in flying instrumentation. As president and CEO, he says it has always been his policy not to scrimp on spare parts and supplies, getting only the best and genuine articles for their planes.

South Phoenix has brought foreign and local executives to Batanes in the north and Camiguin in the south, and several points in between. And the feedback, Rivera says, has been complementary and encouraging.

E-mail the author at linda@fatmails.com

CAPT. Ramil Rivera, in the cockpit of the VIP-configured Cessna 421 B Golden Eagle executive plane

Hail the Mt. Pulag conqueror– and her 3 porters

From page L2

nately, the rain stopped just before we called it a night.

Sometime in the middle of the night, I had to go to the toilet. I tried to make the feeling go away because it was so cold outside. That didn't work, so I quickly stuck my butt in the bush and did my thing. With all my inhibitions gone, I was relieved. It was actually liberating. Good thing we were the only campers that night. No need to worry about butt exposure.

I have not slept beside another person since I got married so I could not warm my toes on Bela's thighs. Plus I had fears of falling ill with acute mountain sickness (AMS) compounded by freezing temperatures. The symptoms can be as mild as a bad headache and nausea or as severe as pulmonary edema, a dangerous accumulation of water in the lungs. But Jon was quick to point out that we were not on Mt. Everest.

Worth the hardship

At 4 a.m., still cold, sleepy and dirty (but covered with French cologne), we headed off for the one-hour, final climb to the summit. Our guide led us in darkness for three quarters of the way. But once up there, all you can think about are God's infinite creations. The hardship was totally worthwhile.

We enjoyed the sunshine only briefly as the day was so windy and cloudy. So we ended up singing all the songs we knew from the past three decades while waiting for the clouds to clear. After a while, we decided to head down before our toes froze and fell off.

We packed our gear with water "from the source" (maybe this could be bottled as our version of Evian). Getting back to cell signal area was our top priority. The simple pleasures of a warm bath and brushing our teeth were also on the list. Dinner at Salud Restaurant in Baguio was an excellent end to our weekend achievement.

This artsy, cozy restaurant is owned by chef **Paul Poblador** and his wife, **Nina**. She has a visible resemblance to her mom, **Patis Tesoro**, and shares her artistic sense. As **Anton**, their cousin, got our orders, we spotted other Manila folks.

After spending a day of pampering (facial, massage and the works at Urban Spa and Emphasis) after the trip, I was back in mint condition with a Mt. Pulag trek under my belt. We vowed to return to the peak someday, and hopefully we would have better weather. Next time though, I will have five porters and a maid!

E-mail the author at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

GUERILLA IN THE MIST. Part of the charm of climbing is getting lost in the clouds.

Walang kukurap...sa sarap!
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K-Sarap ng Buhay!
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"Mula sa Knorr, taos puso kaming nagpapasalamat sa lahat ng sumali, asahan niyo pong patuloy naming mas-pasasarapin ang buhay ng Pamilyang Pilipino."

GMA

Per DOH-BFAD #0056, series 2003

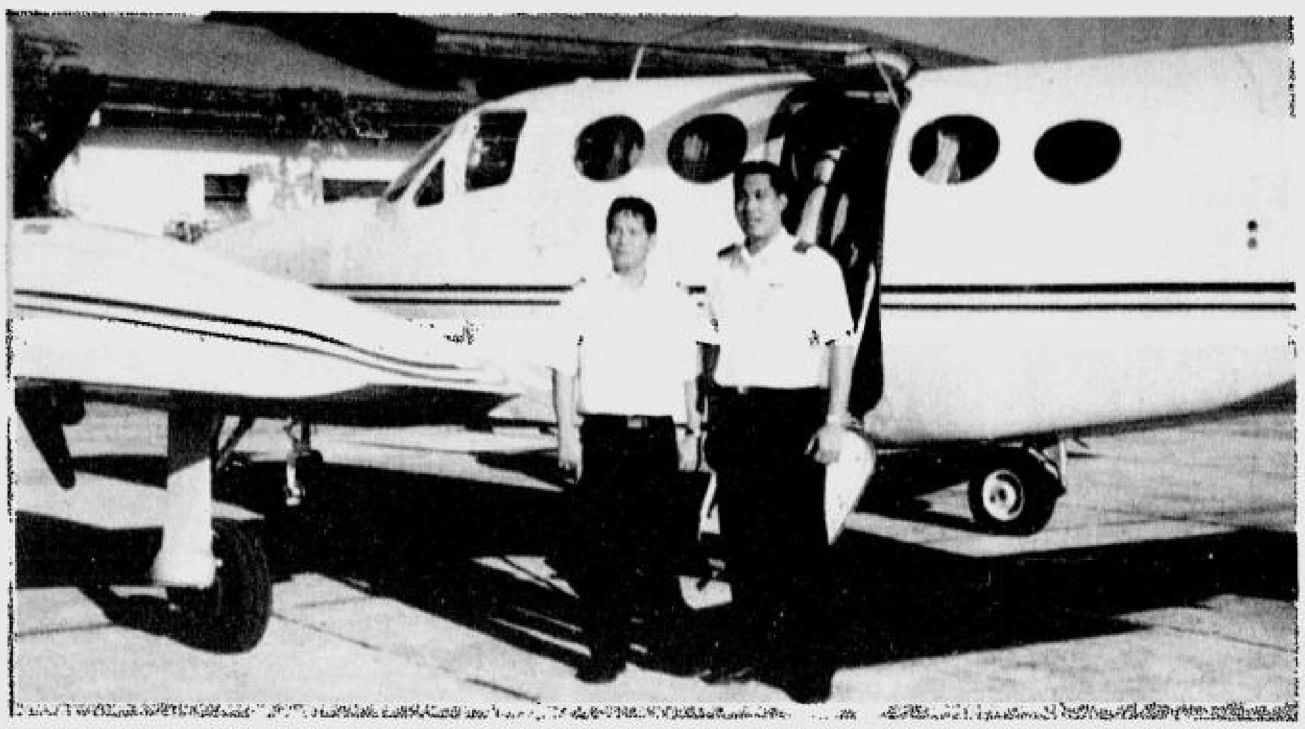
Flying like the rich and famous

Text and photos by Linda B. Bolido

IT IS probably the ultimate in living the lifestyle of the rich and famous. To have a plane at your "beck and call," set the time of departure or arrival to your convenience, skip the time-consuming, tedious and inconvenient check-in by practically hopping straight to your flight the moment you get to the airport, and not to have to wait forever for your luggage at the end of the trip.

You don't have to buy your own plane to feel like Hollywood stars John Travolta and Kurt Russell or a Fortune 500 executive. All you have to do is pick up the phone and call South Phoenix Airways Co., Inc. (tel. 852-5402, 852-3324, and 852-5565) and fly to any part of the country as long as it has a runway that can accommodate a six-seater twin-prop Cessna. They only need an hour of advance notice and if the plane, a VIP-configured Cessna 421 B Golden Eagle executive plane, is available, they can have you on the air just as soon as you get to their hangar at the Manila Domestic Airport (another Cessna is maintained for back-up).

> South Phoenix will accommodate a client's wishes within reasonable limits to ensure comfort and convenience throughout a flight


CAPT. RAMIL Rivera (right), 24-year-old president and CEO of South Phoenix Airways Co. Inc., with Capt. Bobby Ruiz, the company's chief pilot

BORACAY'S famed white sand beaches have become the favorite playground of foreign and local movers and shakers

Capt. Ramil B. Rivera, the personable 24-year-old president and chief executive officer of South Phoenix, one of several small airlines that have aircraft for charter flights, says they are willing to accommodate as much of the clients wishes as possible to ensure comfort and convenience throughout the flight. You want to walk on a red carpet, they will roll one down for you.

Small but efficient

The plane may be too small to have a full complement of a cabin crew in lingerie to give you a massage or foot spa, currently the latest in luxury flying in the United States, and it does not have the gadgets of Air Force One of the American President (although who needs those unless you want to keep your finger on the trigger and be ready to blow up the world anytime the spirit moves you?). It is not even as fast as a Lear jet. But, at the very least, you won't go hungry and possibly not get bored during the short hop from Manila to any point in the Philippines.

FLYING/ L3

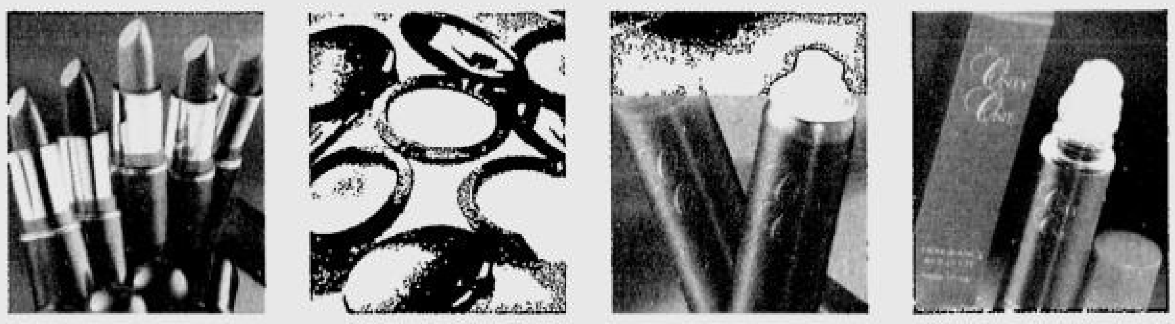
ENSCONCED on a rugged hill, the Nami resort in Boracay, a popular destination for South Phoenix clients, uses this bamboo and metal outdoor elevator to ferry guests from the beach to their rooms.

HER MANY LOOKS

HER NEWEST BEAUTY SECRET

CELEBRITY ★ SECRETS

Fragrances and Cosmetics for the Stars



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DSAP

Ka Blas marks another milestone

By Donnie C. Ramirez
Contributor

FOREIGN Affairs Secretary Blas F. Ople was too busy with pressing diplomatic matters to plan a birthday party. But his staff at the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), led by his daughter, and chief-of-staff Toots Ople, wouldn't let a milestone pass unnoticed. They invited the secretary's close friends and colleagues to a casual but lively dinner at the DFA Auditorium.

Ka Blas, as the honoree is better-known, has shown remarkable political resiliency. Starting as a hard-hitting journalist, he gained national prominence as labor secretary, assemblyman and senator.

He was Senate president when President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo handpicked him to replace Vice President Tito Guingona as secretary of foreign affairs.

Leading the well-wishers were Ka Blas' former colleagues in the Senate like Nene Pimentel and wife Bing, Tito Sotto and wife Helen, Robert Jaworski, Manny Villar, Loren Legarda and Ed Angara; Cabinet members Dick Gordon and Obet Pagdanganan; former senators Nikki Coseteng and Eva Estrada-Kalaw; Bulacan Rep. Willy Villarama; and congressional spouses Gina de Venecia, Tessie Villarama and Naida Angping.

At 76, Secretary Ople has no plans to retire from public service

Also present were Ambassador Lauro Baja, who was confirmed recently as the Philippines' permanent representative to the United Nations. The ambassador and his wife Norma are leaving for New York soon.

Spicing up the lively affair was an impromptu musical program emceed by actress and Mowelfund executive director Boots Anson Roa. Singers Aiza Seguerra, Pinky Marquez and Freddie Aguilar sang Ka Blas' and wife Susana's favorite tunes. At one point, Sen. Sotto gamely sang with Carmen Camacho.

At 76, Ka Blas has no plans to retire from public service. Still hale and sprightly, the illustrious Bulakeño seems poised to achieve more as statesman, parliamentarian and, most of all, nationalist.

FOREIGN Affairs Sec. Blas Ople

SEN. LOREN Legarda

SUSAN Ople (standing) with Helen Gamboa-Sotto and Sen. Manny Villar

SEN. NENE and Bing Pimentel

AMB. LAURO and Norma Baja with the author

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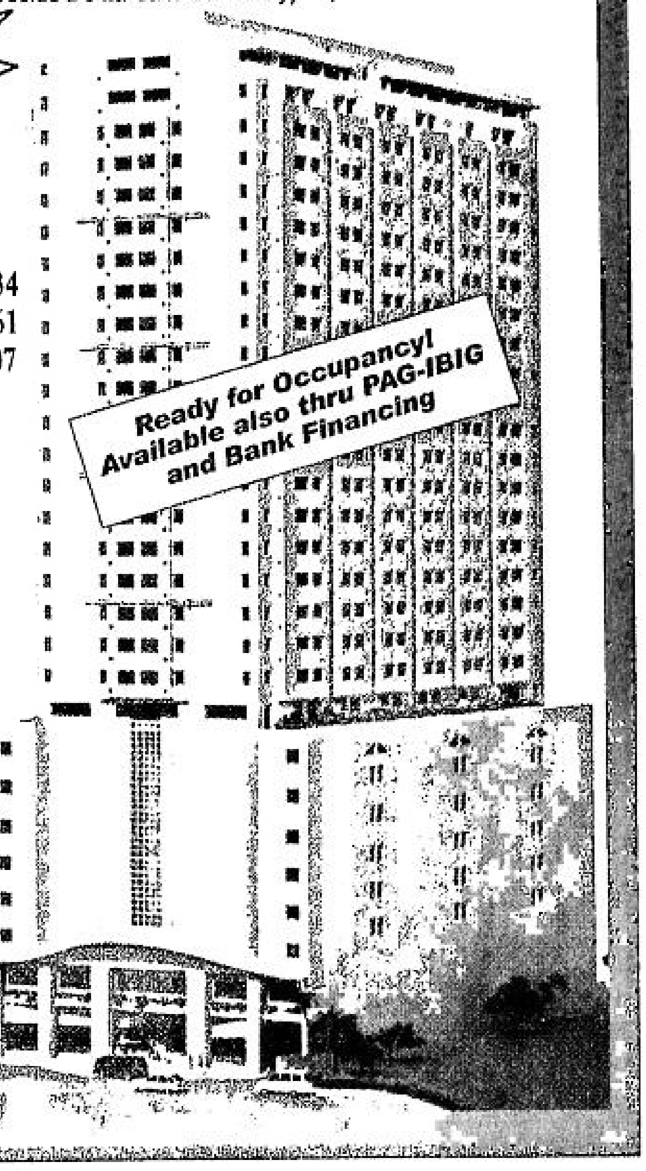

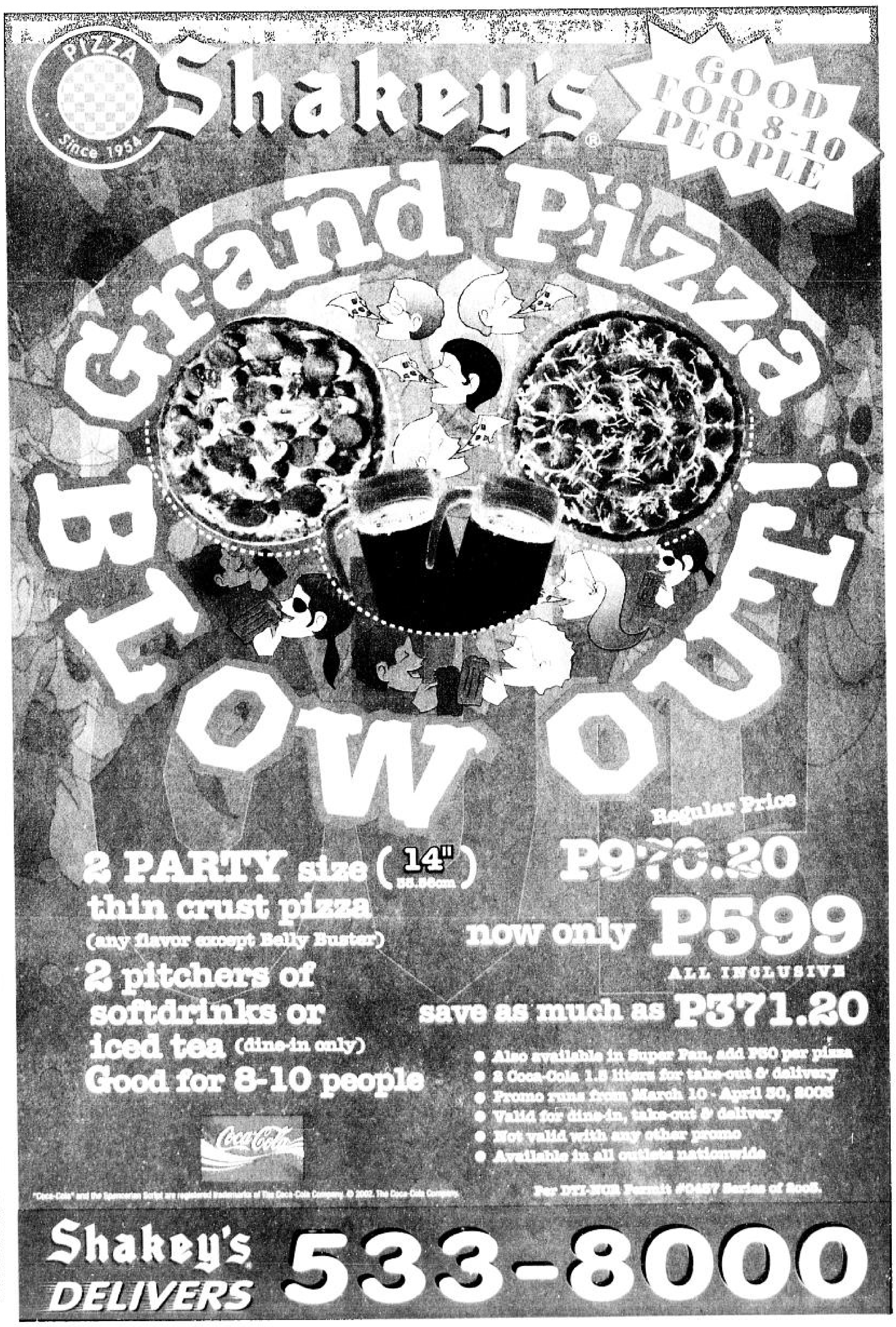

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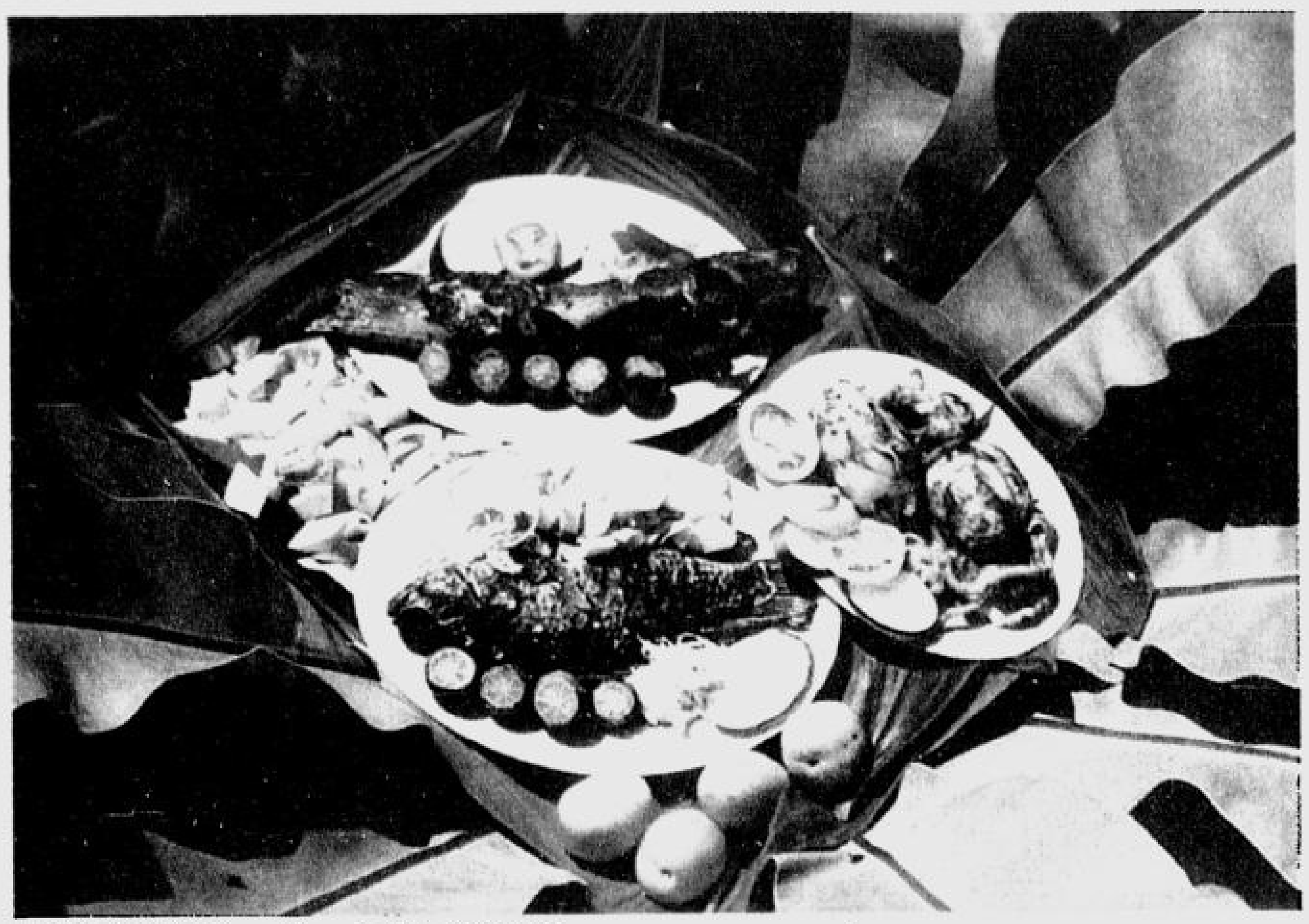
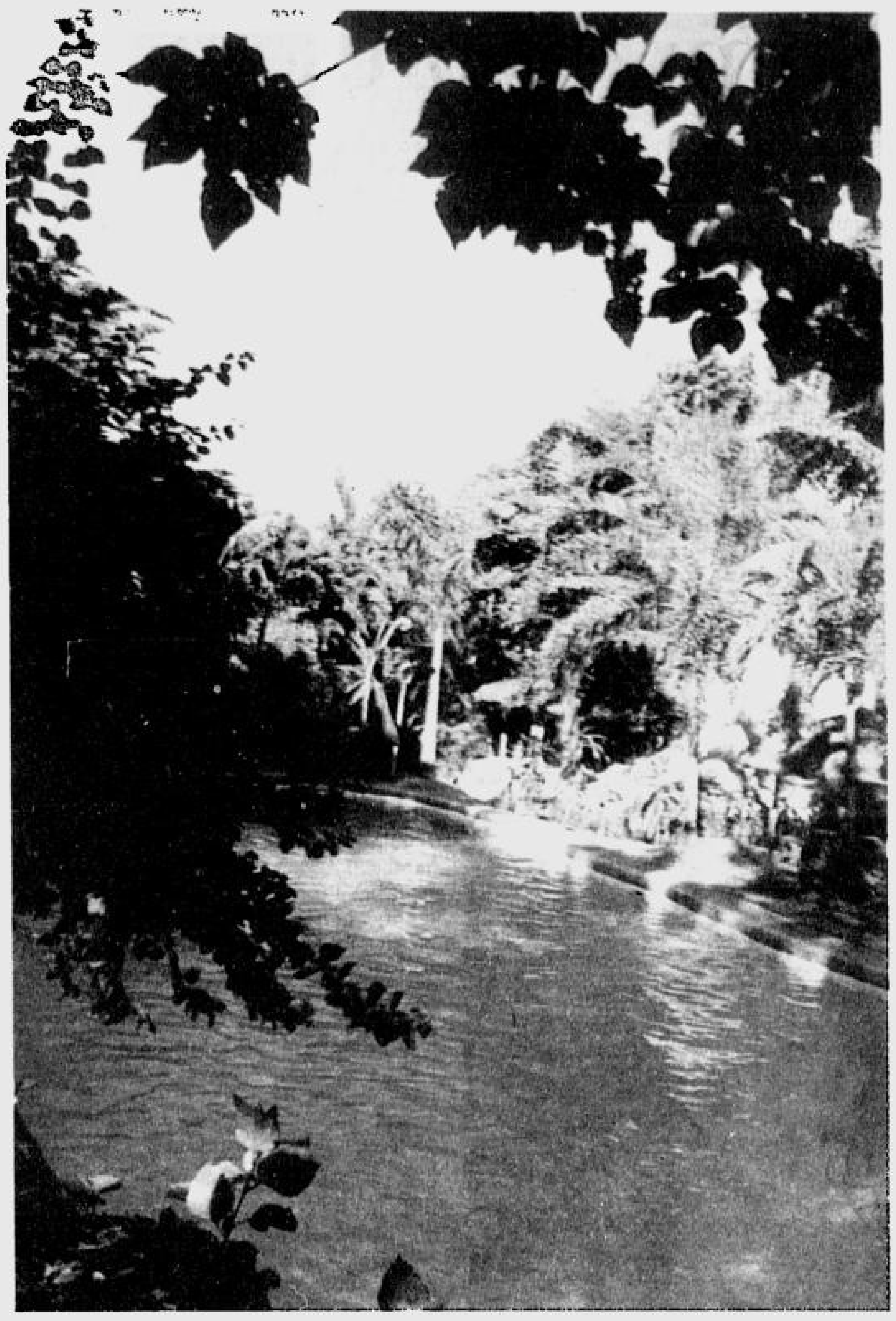


TITA Lettie's Filipino cuisine—*ihaw-ihaw* favorites



GIANT pool with adjacent picnic tables

FAMILY DESTINATION

Resort is so near, yet far enough for unwinding

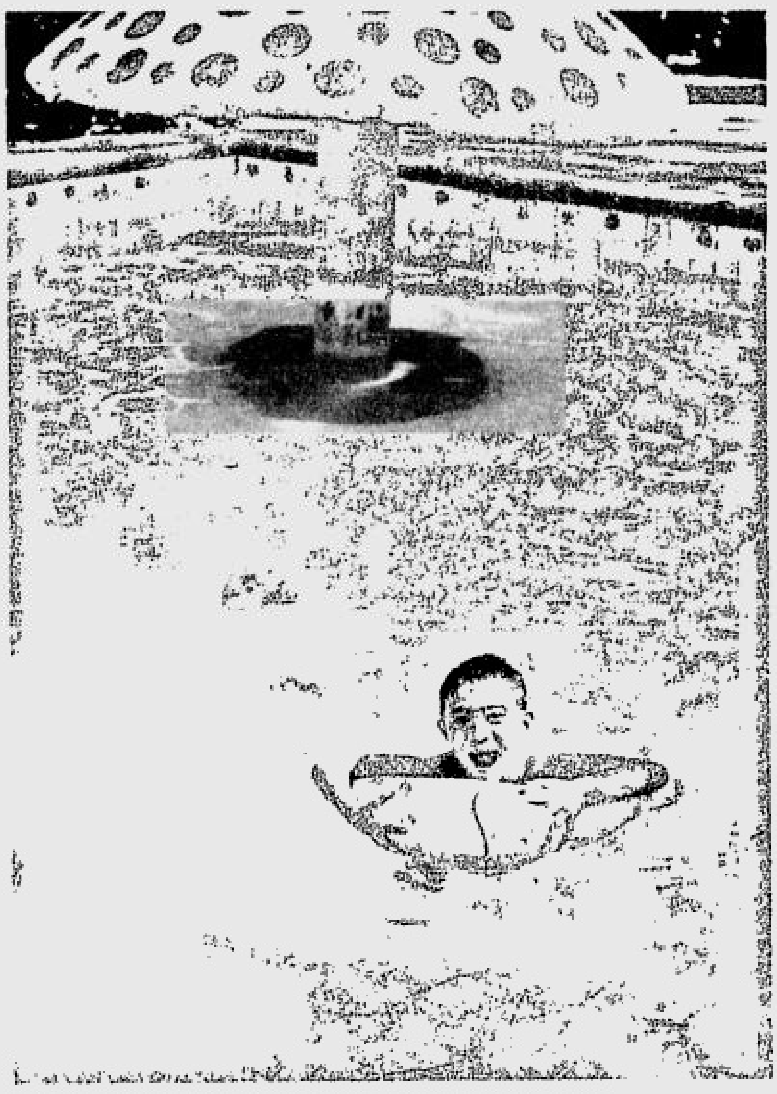
LAGUNA is known both for its natural baths that get their water from the springs of legendary Mt. Makiling and its wide variety of plants that supply the thriving garden businesses.

Now both Laguna attractions—baths and garden—can be enjoyed at the Doña Jovita Garden Resort and its Mediterranean Annex. Located on Km. 57, National Highway, Bagong Kalsada, Calamba, it is a one-hour drive from Makati City on a good day.

Doña Jovita Garden Resort and its Mediterranean Annex is far away enough for people to be able to leave urban cares behind, yet still close enough to allow weary city dwellers to hie off to the resort any time they feel like taking a break—even in the middle of the week.

DOÑA Jovita Garden Resort and Mediterranean Annex

TREE houses



KIDDIE pool

Resort and annex sit at the foot of Mt. Makiling. The two-and-a-half hectare property is designed to blend with the natural terrain and existing flora. It has fruit-bearing and shade trees, ornamentals, wild plants and flowers. It is an ideal take-off point for short hikes to the mountain, where one can enjoy a panoramic view of Laguna Lake and surrounding areas at a higher point.

The resort has one giant public pool and four medium-sized pools that can be reserved for exclusive use of families or groups. There is also a kiddie pool.

Two pavilions can accommodate up to 120 guests. The pools, that can be filled with either cool or hot water, can be enjoyed both in the dry and wet seasons.

Other facilities and activities include picnic tables, huts, tree-houses, camping ground, rappelling, billiard, volleyball, playground, biking, horseback riding and fishing.

Accommodations range from rooms for six people to cottages for 20 guests. The resort also offers different kinds of packages to suit individual needs whether for family outings, office get-togethers and school field trips up to 1,000 guests.

It has a 20-foot manmade waterfall with wading pool and a 25-meter pellet shooting range with five bays.

Although the resort allows the bringing of cooked food and provides outdoor grills, its restaurant also offers a wide array of delicious Filipino dishes. Tita Lettie's Filipino Cuisine serves all-time favorites like *kare-kare*, *pinakbet*, *bulalo*, crispy *pata*, *lechon kawali* and *laing*. Fish dishes include *ginataang tilapia*, *pinaputok na pla-pla*, *sinigang na* blue marlin, *lapu-lapu*, *tanguigue* or *bangus*. There are also various "ihaw-ihaw" and "pulutan" choices.

The Mediterranean Annex is suitable for more intimate occasions like weddings, debuts and anniversaries and can accommodate up to 500 guests. It also has facilities for seminars, conventions and other social and business functions. An air-conditioned seminar room for 200 participants has the basic facilities for conferences. The place has its own pool and some of the air-conditioned rooms have a jacuzzi.

Seminar packages include meals and snacks. call 807-0245; fax 842-2057, (049) 545-3740; e-mail doñajovita@axti.com; or visit www.doñajovita.com.

The girls and boys of summer

HEAD for the beach this summer with frolic-and-fun neon colored swimsuits and trunks for the kids. Hip, cool and eye-catching, the collection is available at the Children's Wear and Accessories collection of all SM stores.

NEON SUMMER
Nicole in a two-piece swimsuit with orange ruffled detailing and Enzo in an orange swimming trunk with blue rimless sunglasses for accent

---

Flower fever

B + ACTIVE summer print polo

ROBINSONS Department Store's (RDS) "Flower Fever" (April 16-May 15) offers an array of summer wear and wares in bright prints dotted with flower designs.

Summer blooms adorn matching shorts and tees, sundresses, polo shirts and girls' slippers that are ideal for frolicking under the sun.

RDS likewise offers a variety of floral knick knacks and household items like porcelain mugs, picture frames, throw pillows, floor rugs, notebooks and stationeries.

ROXANNE Kay haltered dress

Summer preschools

ENROLLMENT for Second Mom Child Care Preschool's "Summer Thrillers," lessons and workshops in both academic and non-academic starts April 21.

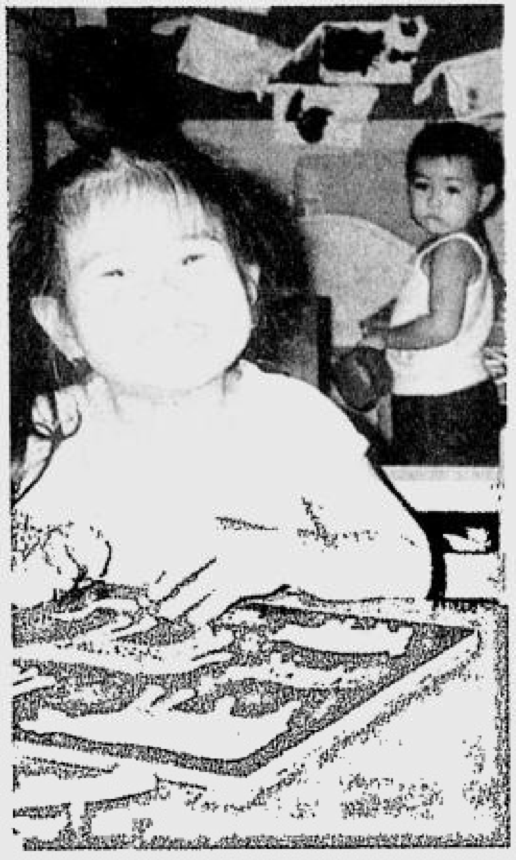
The month-long lessons will give kids of different age groups a learning, fun-filled summer. There is something for everyone: Arts and crafts (for 5-10 years old); Purely drawing which includes basic drawing, sketching, cartoon character drawing (5 years old and up); Playgroup (1.6-2.7 years olds); Story Land Series—reading with comprehension which aims to develop independent reading and develop love for it (5- 12 years olds); Aero Aids—music and movement (for 3-7 years olds); Taekwondo; Ballet; Baking and cooking (3-13 years olds).

For teenagers and adults: aero dance, jazz dance and street dance.

For *yayas*: basic home cooking and shiatzu/Swedish massage.

As a satellite school, all courses at Yamaha School of Music and Prose are also offered at Second Mom. Summer Workshops/Courses are not only offered during summer but also throughout the year as the school's "after schools" programs.

Call 635-9743 and 635-2002 or visit Second Mom at Dormitory I, Philsports Complex (formerly Ultra), Pasig City (beside Brent School).



RUTHIE Huertas doing puzzle at Second Mom.

THE PLAYGROUP Learning Center, a preschool in Fairview, Quezon City, is offering special programs for summer, such as Toddlers, Socialization, Taekwondo, art classes, "Adarna Books Reading Appreciation" and Phonics Factory Reading. Call 417-4469 or 418-0751 or visit the school at 17 Bituin St., Teresa Heights Subdivision, Novaliches, QC.

SOUTHVILLE International School and Colleges (SISC) at BF International in Las Piñas City (820-8702/03) offers Summer 2003 SMART (Social, Mental and Artistic) and sports programs, a special series of skill development and enhancement courses to be held on April 21-May 28 at the SISC campus at BF International, Las Piñas City.

There are reinforcement or advanced courses in Physics, Calculus, Chemistry, Algebra and English and other academic subjects. Additional academic courses are Reading Proficiency and Math Enhancement, Modified Finger Math and Mental Magic Math, Computer, English as Second Language (ESL) and SMART I-III (for preschool-age children).

Also offered are swimming, tennis, badminton, taekwondo, karate-do, chess and basic golf.

Basic culinary arts (cooking and baking), acting camp, public speaking, voice and dance (ballet, jazz and interpretive) are also offered. Call 820-8702 and 820-8703.

ASTORIA Plaza offers kids extensive instructions on the Korean art of self-defense, basic kicks and techniques from the best taekwondo coaches in the country through the Milo Taekwondo Clinic.

Little Dipper Learning Center will conduct lessons on drawing, painting and arts and crafts at Astoria Plaza. Orientation and registration for the activities is on April 21, 10 a.m. at Astoria Plaza. Classes will start on April 22. Call The Philippine Taekwondo Association at 522-0518 to 19; Little Dipper Learning Center, 687-0926 or 0918-9147405; or Astoria Plaza, 687-1111 local 8016.

KINDER picnic at Second Mom school yard.

7-week photo workshop

THE MANDY Navasero Summer Photoworkshop Batch 2003 will be conducted for seven weeks. It includes darkroom procedures, operation of the 35mm camera, black-and-white paper handling, proof printing, print fishing; outdoor portraiture, abstract, line, shapes and objects, light and texture, and hands-on work. There are actual shootings in Metro Manila and out of town. Lectures are held every Saturday, 2-5 p.m., until May 24.

Navasero obtained her BA in Photography major in Illustration and Advertising from Brooks Institute of Photographic Arts and Sciences in Santa Barbara, California. She has photographed the country's leading personalities, politicians and business leaders as well as resorts, aerial and underwater scenes, products and industries.

Registration is now ongoing at Mandy's studio, located at 1935 Dominga Street (near corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue), Pasay City. Call 522-1905, 522-5185 or 89, or e-mail mn_photocom@i-manila.com.ph.

Autism Society holds seminar on behavior management

AS part of its commitment to empower parents, teachers, caregivers and other professionals in the service of persons with autism, the Autism Society of the Philippines (ASP) will be having a seminar on "Behavior Management" on April 27, 1-5 p.m. at the Asian Social Institute (ASI), 1518 Leon Guinto corner Escoda Sts., Malate, Manila. The speaker is Ma. Rosario J. Mañosa, directress of Shine Special Intervention Center. Registration fee inclusive of handouts and light snack is P250 for ASP members and P300 for non-members.

Participants are encouraged to register by paying to Autism Society Philippines, Equitable-PCI Bank, account number 1281-00819-2. Fax deposit slip to the office or bring it on the day of the seminar. On-site registrants will be accepted depending on the availability of slots. No refund will be given to participants who did not show on the date of the seminar. Call 926-6941.

So FUN You'll END UP HoPPING!
Easter adventures at the Ayala Malls!

AYALA CENTER
GLORIETTA • GREENBELT

PLUS!
MERMAID
PREVIEW

"Easter Splash"
April 20, 4pm
Glorietta Activity Center

- Community Singing & Dancing
- Lots of games such as:
  Lifesaver Relay Games, Swimming Race, Underwater Scavenger Hunt, Surfin' with Mom & Dad
- Fishin' for fish eggs! (Easter Egg Hunt)

Reservation/inquiries is at the Glorietta Activity Center.

AYALA CENTER
CEBU

"Hippity Hop.
The Easter Bunny's Good Stuff"
April 20, 1pm
Ayala Activity Center

- Face Painting & Balloon Making
- Games, Magic Shows & Mascot Dance
- Easter "Farm Animal" Costume Contest
- Easter Egg Hunt

Reservation/inquiries for registration is through the Customer Service Booth.

ALABANG
TOWN
CENTER

"Easter Fun at the Town"
April 20, 4pm
Activity Center

- Interactive Games & lots of balloons & give aways!
- Fashion Show of Pets
- Easter Bunny Costume Contest
- Jazz Up your Easter Egg Contest!

Reservation/inquiries for registration is through the Customer Service Booth at the Upper Ground Level or tel. No. 8422782.

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Easter adventures at the Ayala Malls!

AYALA CENTER

PLUS! [illegible] PREVIEW

"Easter Splash"
April 20, 4pm
Glorietta Activity Center

- Community Singing & Dancing
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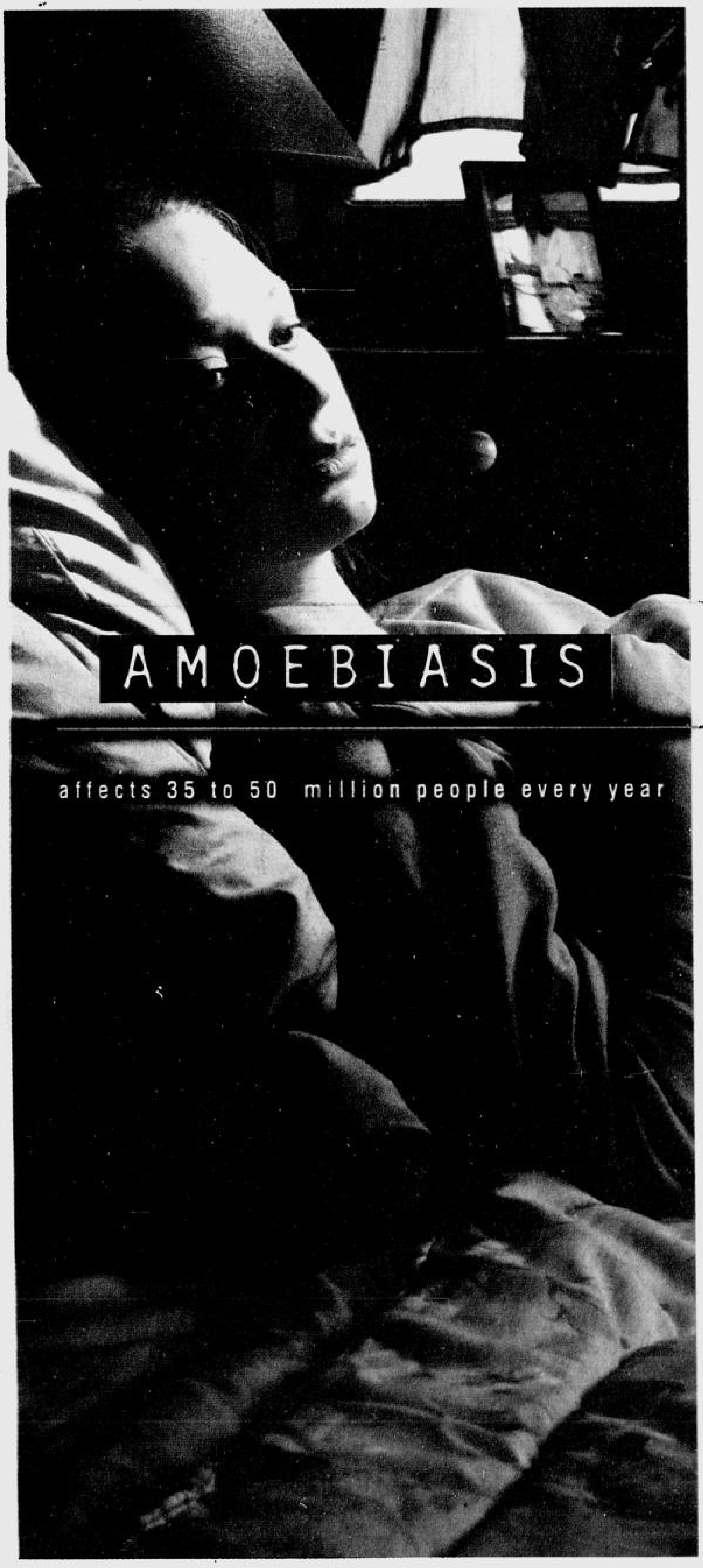
BIRTHDAY DINNER

DR. Remedios Guevara Suntay celebrated her birthday with a dinner held in her Dasmariñas residence recently. Among her guests are: seated, from left, Felipe Jose Ramirez, famous international pianist and Dr. Suntay. Standing, from left are: Menchu Padilla, Erlinda Villanueva, Rica Camacho, Amelita Guevara, Maribel Guevara Diazbedia, Menchu O. Bautista, Felicing Camara, Isabel Guevara and Alberto Guevara, Jr.

A DESPEDIDA LUNCHEON was hosted recently by Isabel F. Guevara in her Makati residence for Maribel G. Diazbedia who resides in Madrid. Photo shows: seated, from left, Carmen Castaner, Celing Herras, Edith O'Farrell, the honoree, Pepa B. Cardenas, Rosa Cacho, Angelita Carlota, and the hostess. Standing from left: Carmen C. Carag, Cristina Espino, Baby Pardo Paterno, Pilar Treichler, Tessie Luz, Tere Cacho, Vicky Brias, Mila T. Garcia and Rose Villamor.



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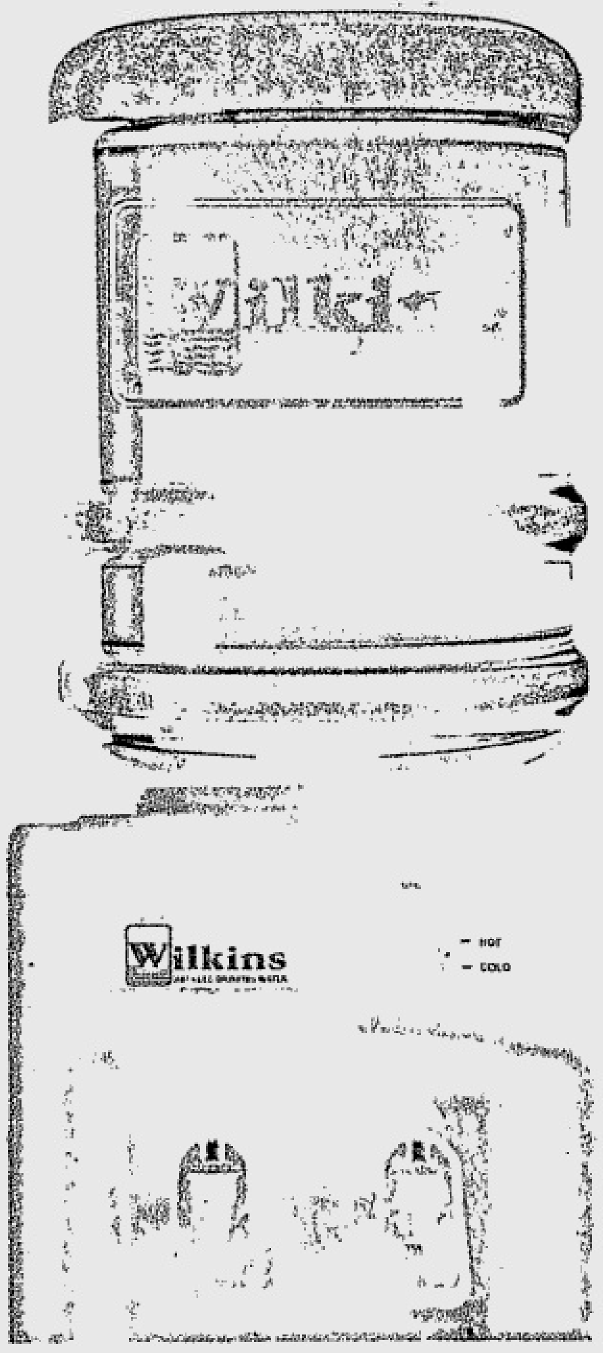

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World Health Organization "Wat

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Frazzle, frump and filth at the Famas

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by August de la Cruz

IT COULD only be called a pre-Holy Week penance.

If you sat through a sleepy awards night for over five hours just to witness the evening's top acting plum going to a girl dressed like a belly dancer from biblical times, you didn't have to flagellate yourself to atone for your sins for the past 365 days.

The Filipino Academy of Movie Arts and Sciences (Famas) was again at its notorious worst for staging the longest awards nights (you know, the kind of notoriety you gain only after 50 years of practice) as it presented its 51st recently at the Bulwagang Arturo Enrile in Camp Aguinaldo. If there were an award for the longest awards ceremony, Famas would be in the Hall of Fame many times over.

Thanks to a handful of celebs who rightfully came dressed in their awards-night best, we in the audience were rescued from terrible catatonia.

FRAZZLE/ N4

AND THE FAMA GOES TO... Apparently for newcomer Jenny Rosendahl, saying "Famas" is as hard as finding a decent dress.

Fashion pluses and minuses made the five-hour boredom bearable

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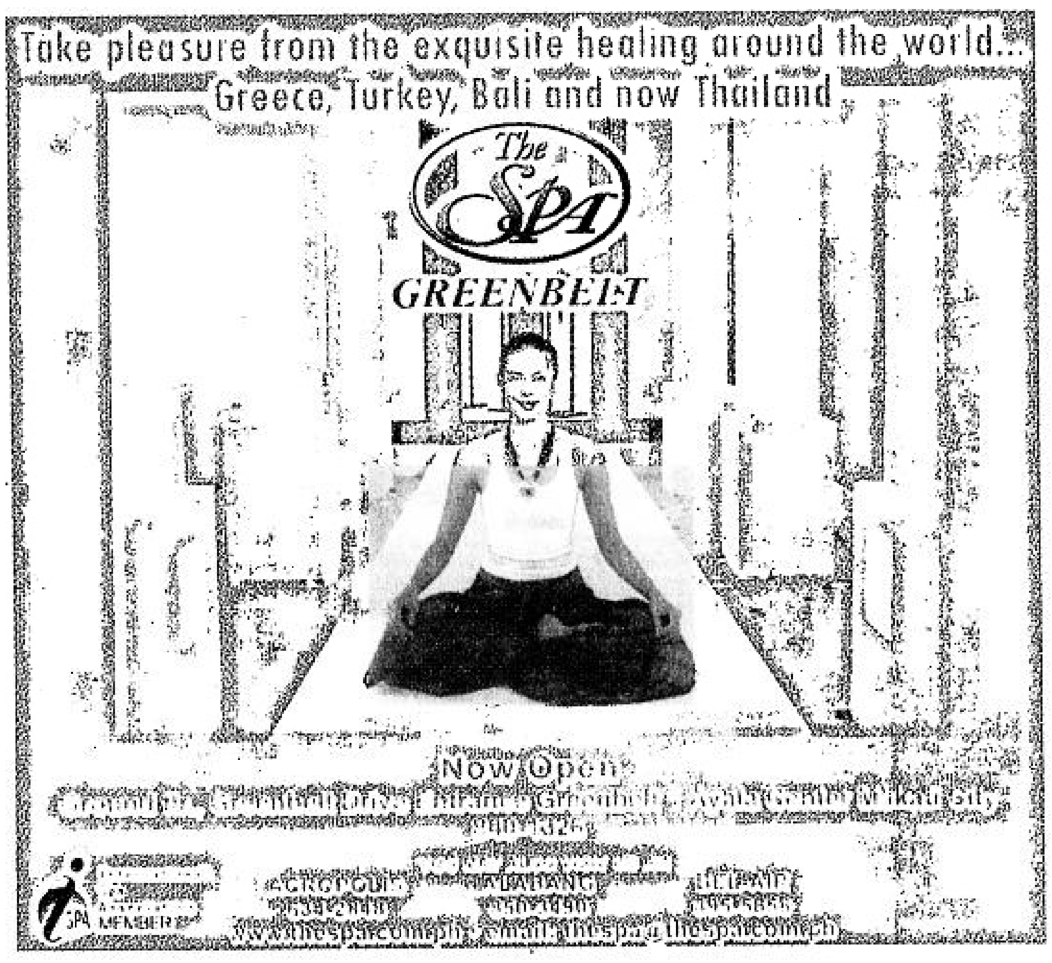

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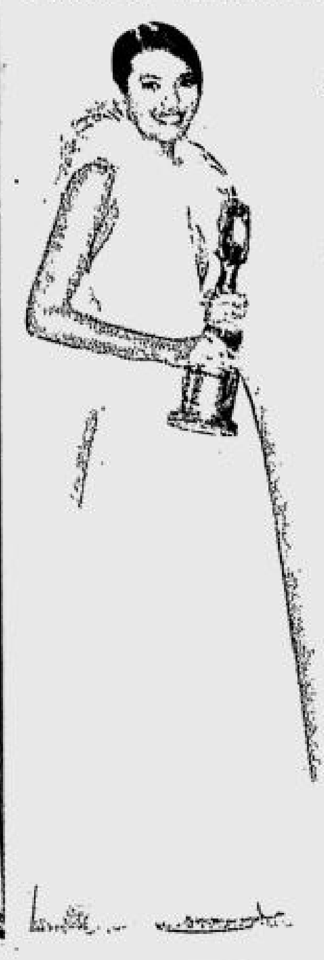
TELE-CHUBBY. Plumpish once more, Kris Aquino is "feeling pretty" in a yellow Rajo Laurel.



THINK GWYNETH. Marden Iglesias' pink confection "falls flat" on Alessandra de Rossi.

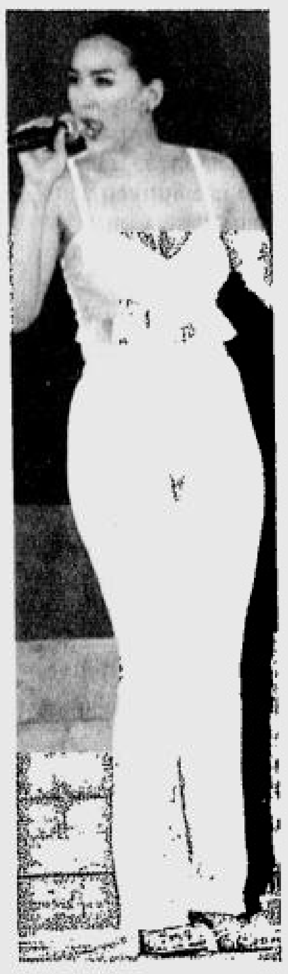
SALVATION ARMY. After a long hiatus, Alma Concepcion stages a comeback in a dated blue frock.

GANDA MO, LOLA. A matronly Elizabeth Oropesa in a so-so black column.

GREEN PIECE. Rep. Imee Marcos shines in a Joe Salazar, but is ill at ease to flash her gams.

NA NAMAN? Lorna Tolentino in a Paul Cabral column—again.

WINNING FORM. She's lost the pounds, who cares about the trophy? Sharon Cuneta in a black column.



YEAH, WHATEVER. "I am beautiful, no matter what they say...," croons Ara Mina. In this dress? Yeah, right.

Frazzle, frump and filth at the Famas

From page N1

A comebacking Beth Tamayo was lovely in a simple black strapless number. Ditto for Snooky Serna in Nono Palmos' tomato-red gown with beaded orange lining. The latter's dress called for more zing, however. Chunkier earrings or some neckpiece next time, perhaps?

As if to defy recent bad fashion reviews, Maricel Soriano looked svelte and elegant in a black gown with lace detail. Perpetually polished Lorna Tolentino was exactly that in a powder-blue column by her favorite designer, Paul Cabral. The look, however, had become predictable. Would it hurt to try a different silhouette next time?

Similarly going for the tried-and-tested, Sharon Cuneta came in a look-alike of the black number she wore to the recent Film Academy of the Philippines Awards.

Kris Aquino, who looked fleshier since the last time we saw her, was her usual garrulous self in a yellow-and-blue Rajo Laurel. She was, however, upstaged by another former first daughter.

Walking orchidarium

Ilocos Norte Rep. Imee Marcos, the evening's guest of honor, who came in a "borrowed" Joe Salazar. The ravishing citrus green confection, inspired by the Sampaguita Pictures era, had fresh orchids for accent. A similar orchid was tucked in her hair to complete the horticulture look.

Pretty newcomer Izza Calzado looked pulled together, but she picked the wrong occasion to wear her chocolate-brown ball gown. She must have confused the evening for her prom.

Best actress contenders Ara Mina and Alessadra de Rossi both came in plumose-accented gowns. Had they exchanged costumes, they would have given justice to the gowns. The Marden Iglesias peek-a-boo halter looked, well, too flat on the skinny De Rossi. It would have looked great on the more "gifted" Ara Mina. The plumose accent on the latter's strapless gown would have created an illusion of shape on De Rossi.

Regine Tolentino also went for the plumose theme in a fully sequined gown that left little to the imagination. In one of the many drawn-out gaps, she stood on stage to wait for her cue while the audience ogled at her thighs and whatnot through the thin fabric of her dress.

Another comebacker, Alma Concepcion, came in a sequined blue halter that looked like a castoff from the Bb. Pilipinas Boutique circa... When did she win again?

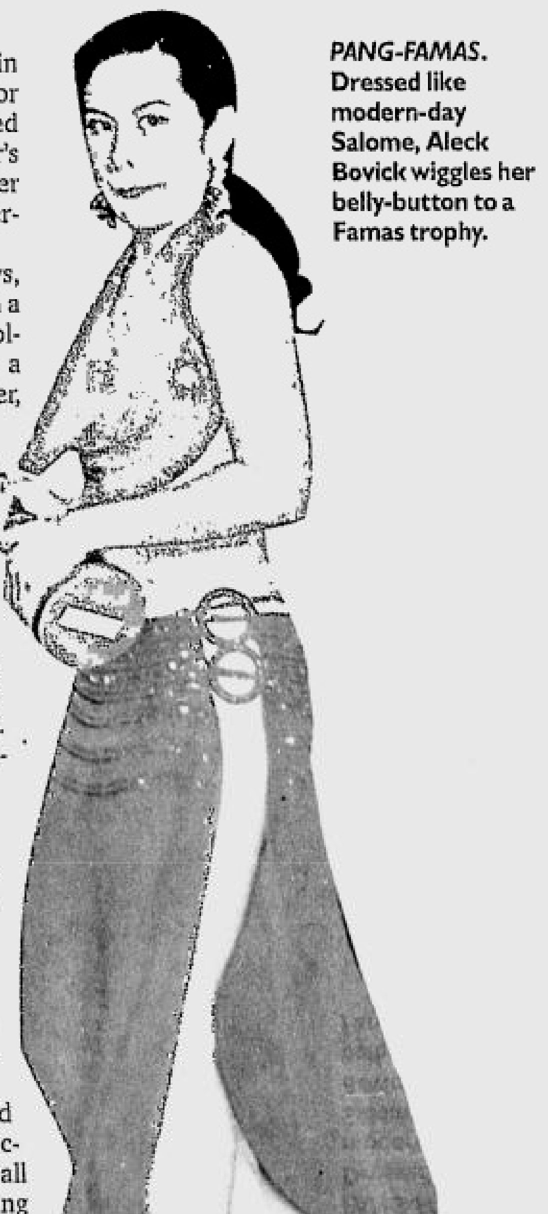
Though the usual bevy of boldies was conspicuously absent, a newbie named Jenny Rosendahl was more than willing to show off her assets. A little too willing, in fact, what with her huge bosom threatening to jump out of her dowdy floral dress. Inez Veneracion and Angela Velez looked like nuns next to her.

But that wasn't enough to steal the show from starlet Aleck Bovick, who was perhaps the evening's biggest winner. Beating veterans like Cuneta in the best actress race, Bovick paraded on stage in a scanty red bib and even scantier skirt. She didn't look at all surprised at winning and proudly held up her trophy, red thongs and all.

The night got worse. On her way out, an irate Angelica Jones berated an organizer for forgetting to call her onstage and make her part of the show.

Five hours of that! Getting nailed on the cross would have been less agonizing.

BLOODY MARY. Snooky Serna looks polished in her Nono Palmos, but the dress seems plain sans sparkly baubles.



PANG-FAMAS. **Dressed like modern-day Salome, Aleck Bovick wiggles her belly-button to a Famas trophy.**

CONFIDENT *DAW SIYA.* Pops Fernandez shows off her uneven tan (inset) in a pink-and-black halter with a hem that's a tad short.

Heny Sison

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

April 26 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P3,000 BRAISING WORKSHOP by: Chef Jill Sandique, Learn how slow, gentle cooking in a small amount of liquid develops flavor & tenderizes meat & vegetable dishes **Recipes:** Braised Pork Loin Fillet w/ Prunes, Blanquette de Veau, Braised Leeks, Braised Pork or Veal Chops w/ Cream & Mustard Sauce, White Braised Chicken with 40 cloves of Garlic.

May 2 (Friday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P3,000 SOUFFLES, CUSTARDS & PUDDINGS WORKSHOP by: Chef Jane Paredes, Food consultant, owner of Café Cornucopia, trained at the Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, New York & Peter Kump's New York Cooking School. Build your confidence & master the surprisingly simple techniques in making elegant savory & dessert soufflés, custards & puddings. **Recipes:** Classic Cheese Soufflé Chocolate Soufflé, Pots de Créma, Chocolate Mousse, Apple Pudding, Rice Pudding, Crème Caramel, Chocolate, Caramel & Crème Anglaise Sauces.

May 3 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. P3,000 EGGS BREAKFAST COOKERY by: Chef Jane Paredes, Learn different techniques of cooking eggs properly: Poached, Fried, Sunny Side-Up, Basted or Country Style, Over Easy, Over Medium, Over Hard, Shirred & Scrambled. **Recipes:** Eggs Benedict, French Omelet, Mimosa Tart, Waffles, Muesli or Cereal Cup plus bonus recipes!

May 5 (Monday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P2,500 PIZZA CLASS WORKSHOP by: Chef Giorgio Bucciarelli, Master Pizzaiolo & Barista, Food consultant of various Italian restaurants all over Metro Manila, graduated at Culinary Institute of Milan, Italy. In this class you will learn the history, concept & design of pizza making. Learn how to make pizza dough, tomato sauce base, white sauce base, preparation, setting up a pizza counter, know the ingredients and toppings. **Recipes:** Margherita, Napoli Classica, 4 Formaggi, Pizza Vegetariana, La Gibiana, Piccantina, 4 Stagioni, Calzone & Frutti di Mare. **Demonstration with participation.**

March 6 (Tuesday) 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon P1,500 COFFEE! COFFEE! COFFEE! by: Aileen Anastacio, Chef / food consultant & owner of C'est Si Bon and Goodies N' Sweets, Dean's List graduate of California Culinary Academy. If you are planning to open a coffee shop this course is for you. Learn the 4 fundamentals of coffee brewing, home espresso, guide to steaming & foaming. **Recipes:** Caffé Mocha, Caffé Americano, Caffé Latte, Cappuccino, Espresso Macchiato & Espresso Con Panna. Make fun toppings & garnishes and master the art of coffee making.

May 6 (Tuesday) 1:30-4:00 p.m. P1,200 DESSERT COFFEES by: Chef Aileen Anastacio, Learn how to make a variety of iced coffee drinks, a whole new category of ways to enjoy espresso. **Recipes:** Almond Coffee Freeze, Icy Rum Coffee Cream, Toffee Coffee, Mudslide Malt, Mocha Rumba, Rocky Road, Mocha Malt & more!

May 7 (Wednesday) 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon P1,500 KOREAN COOKING SERIES Lesson 3 (Fish & Seafood) by: Chef Young Hee Kim Park, owner of Silla Korean Restaurant and food consultant to various Korean restaurants in Metro Manila. **Recipes:** Seng Sun Gui (Lapu-lapu and Salmon), Saeoo Bulgogi (Shrimp), Ojingau Bulgogi (Squid), Ojingau Bokun (Squid w/Spicy Sauce), Ge Gui (Crab), Fishcake Bukun (Fishcake), Seafood and Beef Bulgogi, Hae Mul Chapchae (Seafood & Noodles), Nakgi Bulgogi So Myun (Octopus & Noodles)

May 7 (Wednesday) 1:30 -5:30 p.m. P1,500 JAPANESE COOKING 1 (All time Favorite Japanese Recipes) by: Koichi Kondo, licensed cook from Ehime, Japan and food consultant to various Japanese restaurants. Miso Soup, Tempura, Nimono, Yakimono, California Maki, Chilled Soba, Noddles with Nori, Skewered Dumplings with Brown Sauce

May 9 (Friday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P3,000 BASIC STOCKS & SAUCES WORKSHOP by: Chef Jill Sandique, This special 1-day workshop will deepen your understanding of sauce making. Students will learn how to make white & brown stocks, demi glaze, veloute, bechamel, hollandaise, mayonnaise, vinaigrette & many more! Dessert sauces also included. For the new & seasoned cooking aficionado!

May 10 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P3,000 STEAMING, POACHING & BOILING by: Chef Jill Sandique, In this class you will have a thorough understanding of the basic procedures of steaming, poaching & boiling that will give your finished product a specific texture, appearance, flavor and aroma. **Recipes:** Court Bouillons, Mussels Steamed in White Wine, Pommes de Terre Miettes En Persillade Poached Scallop, Beurre Blanc (White Butter Sauce), & Asparagus w/ Sauce Hollandaise & Poached Salmon with Sole & Shrimp plus bonus recipes!

May 12-13 (Monday-Tuesday) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P4,000 CAKE DECORATING COURSE I by: Heny Sison, Learn the basic of cake decorating: icings, color, star, shell, dots & outline borders, the rose, figure piping: clown & booties. You'll bake & decorate a character birthday cake. **Full participation.**

May 14 (Wednesday) 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. P1,500 SALADS & MODERN SAUCES by: Chef Jane Paredes, Green Salad Assembly w/ 3 dressing: Light Ranch Dressing, Walnut & Blue Cheese Vinaigrette, Carrot & Basil Oil, Grilled Chicken & Crispy Noodles Salad w/ Sesame Dressing, Modern Caesar Salad w/ easy to make dressing, Potato Apple & Smoked Bacon Salad w/ Warm Vinaigrette, Pineapple Barbados w/ Rum Butterscotch Sauce

May 14 (Wednesday) 1:30 -5:00 p.m. P1,500 CHILDREN'S COOKING by Chef Jill Sandique Baked Chicken Drumsticks w/ Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Cheese Pimiento Pinwheels, Ice Cream Sundae w / Homemade Butterscotch & Hot Fudge Sauce

May 16 (Friday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P3,000 BROILING & GRILLING WORKSHOP by: Chef Jane Paredes, Know the difference between broiling & grilling & make the most tender cuts of meat, poultry & vegetable. Learn how marinades add flavor, the equipment used & How to test for doneness. **Recipes:** Grilled Rack of Lamb w/ Carrot Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, 3 Peppercorns Sauce, Grilled Vegetable Salad, Garlic Balsamic Vinaigrette, Fruit & Vinegar Vinaigrette, Broiled Pork Chops, Garlic Tomato Butter & Grilled Salmon Fillet w/ Dill Sauce.

May 17 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P1,500 CHOCOLATE ARTISTRY by: Heny Sison, Professional techniques for creating fabulous candies from molded treats to truffles. Learn how to temper, flavor & color chocolates. Learn how to make chocolate lollipops, 3-D hollow molded chocolates, chocolate house & hand molded rose made out of chocolate paste. Packaging ideas will be shown in the class

May 19 (Monday) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P3,000 SECRETS NO MORE! (My most requested recipes) by: Heny Sison, Decadent Chocolate Cake, Lemon Torte, Ensaymada, Almond Sanzrival, Strawberry Shortcake & Ube Cake

May 20 (Tuesday) 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. P1,500 CHILDREN'S BAKING 1 by Chef Jill Sandique Chocolate Crackes, Fudgy Brownies, Lemon Pie, Snickerdoodles, Oatmeal Raisin Cookies & Chocolate Chip Cookies

May 20 (Tuesday) 1:30 -5:00 p.m. P1,500 CAJUN COOKING 1 by: Chef Jill Sandique Corn & Crab Bisque, Shrimp Pie, Jambalaya, Red Beans & Rice, Blackened Red Fish and Pecan Pralines

May 21 (Wednesday) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. P1,700 BURGERS & STEAKS by: Chef Jane Paredes,
Burgers : Italian Burger, Beef Tex Mex Burger, Chicken Burger & Traditional Beef Burger
Steaks : Rib-eye, Tenderloin, & T-Bone
Sauces : Bercy, Green Peppercorn Sauce, & Cafe de Paris
Sidings : Potato Gratin & Potato Puree

May 23-24 (Friday/Saturday) 10:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. P6,000 SAVORY & DESSERT PASTRY WORKSHOP by Chef Jill Sandique In this class Chef Jill will teach you pastry techniques for sweet & savory recipes made by hand or machine. **Recipes:** Quiche aux Fruits de Mer, Quiche auc Oignon, Quiche au Fromage, Quiche au Roquefort, Quiche Lorraine, Chicken Pot Pie, Chaussons (Turnovers), Fruit Tarts, Gateau St. Honore & more!

May 26 (Monday) 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. P1,500 KOREAN COOKING SERIES: Lesson 4 (Rice & Noodles) by Chef Young Hee Kim Park Bap (Rice) Recipes: Bulgogi Cho Bap (Beef), Tenderloin Bulgogi Dop Bap, Kimchi Bokum Bap, Chicken Dop. **Noodle:** Hae Mul Guk Soo (Soya Bean), Mae Mil Guk Soo (Soya Bean) Mae, Mil Guk Soo (Buck Wheat), Tuna Bibum Guk Soo (Raw Tuna), Dang Tang Ramyun (Soya Bean Paste)

May 26 (Monday) 1:30 -5:30 p.m. P1,500 JAPANESE RICE TOPPINGS by Chef Koichi Kondo *Recipes: Oyako-don (chicken & Egg on rice), Gyudon (Beef Bowl), Ten-don (Tempura Bowl), Katsu-don (Pork Cutlet Bowl), Soboro-don (Minched Chicken & Egg Bowl), Tori Teriyaki-don (Chicken Teriyaki) plus bonus recipe Chahan (Japanese Fried Rice)

May 27 (Tuesday) 10:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. P2,500 SIOPAO & MAMI WORKSHOP by Katherine C. Sion, restaurateur (Ding Hao & Fat Kai), food consultant to caterer & an expert in Chinese Cuisine
Sidings: Bola-bola, Asado & Special.
Mami : Chicken & Beef

May 28 (Wednesday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P2,500 FRESH PASTA & SAUCES by Giorgio Bucciarelli, Learn how to make pasta egg dough, green spinach dough, black pasta dough. Pastas: Lasagna, green lasagna, ravioli, tortellini, cannelloni, green & black fettuccine; stuffings & sauces for ravioli, tortellini & cannelloni. Recipes: Lasagna alla Bolognese, Lasagna 4 Formaggi, Lasagna al Pesto, Cannelloni alla Ricotta & Spinaci, Ravioli alla Boscaiola al Burro e Salvia, Tortellini ai 4 formaggi, Lasagna al Pesto.

May 30 (Friday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. P3,000 ROASTING & BAKING WORKSHOP by: Chef Jane Paredes, Discover how to roast meats & vegetables to perfection. Recipes: Roast Beef Jus Lie, Baked Potatoes, Roast Chicken, Baked Tomato & Penne Pasta, Baked Seafood En Papillote, Baked Broccoli Angel Hair in Garlic Olive Oil Sauce.

May 31 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. P3,000 SAUTE, PAN FRYING & DEEP FRYING by: Chef Jane Paredes, Learn the difference between sauteing, pan frying, & deep frying, how to create crispy & light coatings & how to deglaze to create a simple sauce. Recipes: Cheese & Vegetable Fritters w/Tomato Salsa, Deep Fried Fish Anglaise, Chicken Marsala, Spinach Spatzle, Pork Cutlet, Glazed Carrots & Pan Fried Potatoes

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May 21 (Wednesday) 1:00-5:00 p.m. P1,700 SOFT PRETZEL WORKSHOP *Learn how to make hand-rolled soft pretzel with a variety of toppings & dippings: Cinnamon Sugar, Whole Wheat Soft Pretzels, Poppy Seed, Coarse Salt, Sesame Seeds & more! Match them w/ Cream Cheese, Chocolate, Caramel & Soft Cheese Dips.

May 28 (Wednesday) 1:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. P1,700 THE ART OF SANDWICH MAKING *Grilled Chicken w/ Pancetta, Arugula & Aioli, Portobello Mushroom & Goat Cheese Panini, Beef Burger Stacks, Grilled Saluton B.L.T., Eggplant & Prosiutto Panini, Vegetarian (Grilled Eggplant, Zucchini, Mushroom, Red Pepper, Onion & Basil Pesto), Tomato, Basil, Ricotta Sandwich w/ Tapenade

May 30 (Friday) 1:00-5:00 p.m. P1,500 BROWNIES & BARS *Chewy Moist Brownies, Carrot Cake Bars, w/ Cream Cheese Icing, Lemon Cheese Cake Bars, Brownies w/ Caramel Center & Butterscotch Bars

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Qualifications :

- ➢ Male/Female, smart and with pleasing personality
- ➢ Graduate of Management or any business related course, preferably with MBA or MA units.
- ➢ At least 5 to 10 years of related experience with proven track record in sales.
- ➢ Highly motivated, proactive and with superior interpersonal skills to perform as a leader.
- ➢ With strong organizational and financial skills.
- ➢ Aggressive, highly disciplined, and result-oriented.
- ➢ Excellent communication skills (oral & written)
- ➢ Has keen sense of business operations as well as the ability to formulate and execute sales plans.

HR OFFICER

Qualifications :

- ➢ Not more than 35 years old, Male/Female, smart and with pleasing personality
- ➢ Graduate of Psychology or any related course, preferably with MBA or MA units; or IT graduate with strong HR background.
- ➢ At least 3 years of related experience with proven track record in all facets of Human Resources
- ➢ Highly motivated, proactive and with superior interpersonal skills to perform as a leader.
- ➢ Aggressive, highly disciplined, and result-oriented.
- ➢ Excellent communication skills (oral & written)

Please send your comprehensive resumé
with 2 x 2 colored picture at:
P.O. BOX #MK120
C/o Classified Ads Department
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Atrium Building, Makati Avenue, Makati City

WANT A CAREER SHIFT TO I.T.?

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Asia Pacific College offers an opportunity for career shifters in Information Technology (IT). If you are apprehensive to enter the IT world because of your non-computer or Information Technology (IT) related college background, we can help you to become the IT professional you want to be.

We all know that companies nowadays are more sophisticated in their choices of IT professionals. And what's the surer way to build your career in IT than to have a bachelor's degree in computer studies? A bachelor's degree is a good boost to your qualifications that can provide you with a long-term opportunity for career advancement.

No, you don't have to attend another four years in college to earn your second bachelor's degree and you don't even have to sacrifice your present job for your studies. We have designed an evening / weekend degree program in two years. This program is the Bachelor of Science in Information Management (BSIM).

Through the BSIM program, you will learn the basics of computer programming all the way to the higher level training in systems analysis and design, applications development, data communications, software project management, and web development. We will not only hone your technical skills but also your managerial skills through the business and professional subjects we have included in the program.

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Be one of our highly motivated students who are already starting to make their way to a more challenging career in IT. It's never too late to shift your career in IT.

Interested? Then apply personally with your photocopy of transcript of records, photocopy of diploma, two 2"x2" colored photos and P500.00 application fee. Application going on for first trimester SY 2003-2004. Fresh graduates are welcome to apply. Classes start on May 28, 2003.

✂

YES! Please ☐fax / ☐e-mail / ☐mail me more information about BSIM.

Full Name : (☐ Mr./ ☐ Ms.) ____________________
Mailing Address ____________________
____________________ E-mail: ____________________
Tel/s. : ____________________ Fax No. : ____________________

Cut this coupon then mail or fax to ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

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SALES

College graduate, preferably business or engineering course
2-5 years technical sales experience, or sales of consumer goods
With good communication and interpersonal skills
Hardworking, self-driven, flexible, not more than 28 years old

FINANCE

Must be a Certified Public Accountant
2-3 years finance related experience
Proficient in computer software applications
Trustworthy, resourceful, and attentive to details
Not more than 28 years old

HUMAN RESOURCES

Psychology, Industrial Engineering, or Behavioral Science graduate
5-7 years HR/Personnel experience in plant/manufacturing operations, with at least 3 years in managerial position
With recognized contributions in assigned HR/Personnel area/s
Strong interpersonal skills; good communication skills
28-33 years old

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS

BS I.E. graduates
1-3 years focused experience in plant operations/business planning, or purchasing
Proficient in computer software applications
Analytical, well organized, and innovative
Not more than 28 years old

SECRETARY/OFFICE ASSISTANT

College graduate
2-5 years well-tracked secretarial experience to a senior executive
Excellent communication, computer, and interpersonal skills
Trustworthy and well organized
Not more than 28 years old

Attractive compensation package and career growth await successful applicants. Interested applicants should send their resumé with their transcript of records, and recent passport size photo to:

CV_RESUMÉ
P.O. Box No. 7410
Airmail Pasay Distribution Center

(Attach picture on the upper right hand corner of your resumé and indicate the position applied for on the upper left hand corner)

UNAIDS
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNICEF · UNDP · UNFPA · UNDCP
ILO · UNESCO · WHO · WORLD BANK

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in the Philippines

is in need of a qualified individual for the position of

Country Programme Advisor

Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the in-country guidance of the Chair of the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS (UN TG) and supervision of the Associate Director of the Asia Pacific and Middle East Division (APM) in Geneva, the CPA will:

- Support UN TG in enhancing collaboration among Co-sponsors and within the UN system in support of the national response.
- Support UN TG in strengthening national leadership and national coordination of the country response.
- Assist the UN TG in mobilizing support for an effective expanded response.
- Monitor country situation and response for advocacy and to better inform the Secretariat's and other partners', collaboration with/support to countries.
- Manage UNAIDS office operations

Qualifications:

Knowledge and Experience

Education: Post-Graduate Degree in Development/Social/Behavioral/Physical Sciences or Public Health.
Professional Experience: 10 years of extensive experience managing and implementing development cooperation and/or HIV/AIDS programmes.
Functional/Technical knowledge: Extensive technical experience in developing and implementing policies and development programme. Thorough understanding of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and its implications. Knowledge of UN system organizations and their delivery mechanisms.
Languages: Fluency in English and in Filipino.

Professional and Managerial Competencies

- Strategic Information Managerial skills, including strong analytical skills; Excellent professional communication and advocacy skills, both verbal and written, with experience in public and media relations.
- Ability to mobilize constituencies and gain commitment of partners; Ability to establish and maintain relationships with broad range of people.
- Demonstrated achievements in strategic planning and management of activities at country levels as well as ability to resolve conflicts.
- Cross-cultural sensitivity, sensitivity to PWA and teamwork are core competencies of the UNAIDS Secretariat.

Deadline of Application: 30 April 2003

Salaries and Benefits: UNAIDS offers attractive and competitive salary and benefits based on qualifications and experience.

Application Requirements: Submit your Letter of Application with 2x2 photo, Comprehensive Curriculum Vitae & Accomplished UN Personal History Form

Submit Application to: Personnel Office, UNDP, 7th floor, NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo Avenue, Makati City.

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You will need the following:

☐ Broadband Internet with about 32 Kbps bandwidth (about P16,000/month)
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INTERESTED PARTIES, PLEASE CONTACT:
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(02) 728-3000 loc. 35
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*Bigger discounts for really large volume of calls

INVESTOR – TELEPHONE PROJECT

San Jacinto / San Fernando and Arorroy, Masbate

Looking for investor with P3.5M for the San Jacinto/San Fernando (Ticao) for telephone landline business. (The company will be the PLDT in Ticao, Masbate). Investor shall manage and run the business. We also need another investor with P4.4M for Arorroy, Masbate for the same business.

Business has a 3-5 year pay back period.

INTERESTED PARTIES, PLEASE CONTACT:
Continental Telecom
(02) 728-3000 loc. 31; 893-9240
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Cook/Baker Helper
Elect'l Engineer
Mech'l Engineer
Ref. Technician
Service Technician
Merchandiser/Promodiser
Silk Screen Printers
Secretary/Encoder
Factory Workers
Warehouseman/Staff
Sewer-URGENT
Janitor/tress
Driver-URGENT
Carpenters
HRM Graduate

Qualifications:
- M/F ages between 18-26, 27-35 years old
- H.S./College Level/Graduate

Apply at:

JOBLINE
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891 Aurora Blvd. Cubao, Quezon City
(Entrance Beside Banco Filipino & Avon)
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We are a continuous hiring firm.

Galing Pilipino Movement

GALING PILIPINO MOVEMENT (GPM) is a non-profit private organization committed to recognizing, affirming and propagating what is good and excellent about PILIPINOs to evolve a commendable sense of national pride than can be a solution platform for the country's present-day ills. Since its launch in June 12, 2002, GPM has received a wellspring of support that necessitates immediate organizational expansion. GPM would like to invite Dreamcatchers who want to outwork their aspirations through these career opportunities. Be part of a defining moment in our history.
Itaguyod natin ang Galing ng Pilipino!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Passionate about the GPM cause. Dynamic. Christian values-centered. Good at people motivation, work organization and institutional systems development. Excellent communication and PR skills. At least five (5) years managerial experience in running an NGO/NPO.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Strong administrative skills. With accounting and computer background. Multi-skilled with a high degree of initiative and resourcefulness. Has a penchant for discipline and punctuality. With working knowledge on website management preferred. Work will include overseeing seminars and conference projects.

MEDIA / EVENTS COORDINATOR

Young. Aggressive. Self-organized. Passionate about excellence. Creative and resourceful. Excellent communication and PR skills. Hardworking. Can laugh under work pressure. Experience in media relations and/or event management preferred.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Passionate about the GPM cause. With a high degree of initiative and resourcefulness. Personable. Professional. Goal-oriented. Excellent network developer. Good written and oral communication skills. Experience in fund-raising projects required.

PROJECT OFFICER (S)

Passionate about the GPM cause. Self-starter. Good organizer. Can deliver on commitments. Excellent network developer. Good written and oral communication skills. Diligent worker. Strong predisposition to work with the youth, communities and multi-sectoral organizations.

Project Options Include: Youth Program, Tourism-oriented Community Development Program, Media-related Program Development, Livelihood/Job Creation Projects, Recognition Programs and Member Relations.

DRIVER / MESSENGER

Reliable. Personable. Can drive manual and automatic transmission vehicles. Hardworking. Knows Metro Manila. With a high degree of initiative and professionalism.

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Responsible for locating and contacting debtors of STC Solutions' U.S. clients to recover money owed on credit cards, mortgage loans, car loans, student loans, utility bills, medicare or taxes in accordance with established policies & objectives. Utilize means such as the telephone, mail or electronic mail, and perform skip tracing activities. Makes arrangements for repayment, updates payment records and advises debtors regarding action steps. Prepares collection reports and recommends or initiates accounts for litigation and repossession as needed.

Qualifications :

At least 2 years' college education. 1 year's collection or sales experience. General knowledge of customer service and collection process. Proficient in using various software programs. Knowledge of US collection laws a plus. Auto dialer experience preferred.

Excellent English written and verbal communication skills. Ability to work independently, interact and communicate by phone with a variety of individual customers, and negotiate effectively. Detail-oriented. Acute sense of professionalism and confidentiality. Customer service orientation. Strong level of self-motivation. Resourceful, aggressive and persuasive. Willing to work on US time (graveyard shifts).

STC's services span the entire Sales-to-Cash cycle and are specifically tailored to improve each client's bottom-line through accelerated cash flow, lower operating costs, reduced bad debt expense, and improved customer retention. STC will close more sales, and convert these sales more quickly to cash.

STC Solutions will close more sales, and manage the flow of its clients' accounts receivables, from soft collections, resolving disputes, negotiating payment plans, monitoring payments, and providing follow up on delinquent accounts.

Submit resumes to : jobs@stcsolutions.com

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Founded in the USA in 1998. PeopleSupport is a leading international call center that provides superior customer service via phone, email and chat. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 365 days a year.

We focus on creating a supportive environment for our eReps™ so we can retain the best talent. We maintain a positive culture through motivation and retention programs, offer a dynamic and state-of-the-art work environment, casual dress code, professional development and training, and a competitive compensation and benefits package.

Today, in less than five years, our global network is composed of a corporate headquarters in Los Angeles, US call center in St. Louis, Missouri, and of course, the Asia Pacific Headquarters in Manila.

eReps™

are PeopleSupport's customer service representatives who provide customer service via email, chat and phone on a 24x7 basis. Qualifications: Four-year college degree, strong customer service orientation. excellent English communication skills, and good typing skills. Internet savvy. Willing to work shifts.

travel eReps™

2+ years' experience in airline reservations (preferably international), or hotel/car rental reservations

or

Tourism/ HRM graduate, with experience in the hospitality industry, preferably in reservations.

technical eReps™

College graduates from Computer Science / IT courses (or any related degree/ background).

or

Experience in providing technical support for computer hardware and/or software.

SEND YOUR RESUMES TO

applicants@peoplesupport.com

12TH-14TH FL. PHILAMLIFE TOWER, PASEO DE ROXAS, MAKATI

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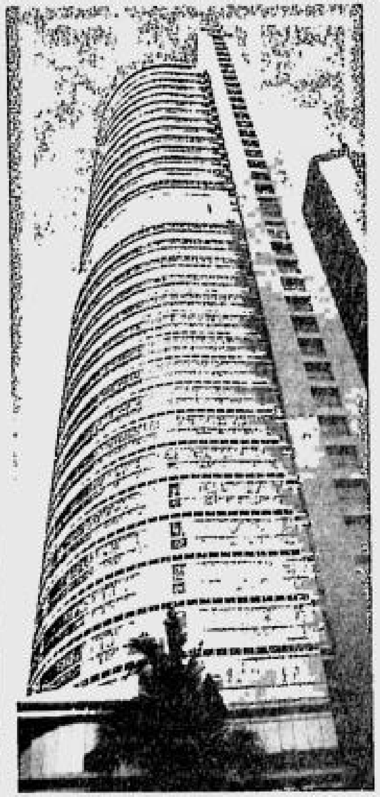

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

OPERATIONS MANAGER (Code: PDI-OM)

The candidate will be responsible for managing the customer service and call center departments involving all activities which contribute to the acquisition, satisfaction and retention of customers. He/She must have previous Inbound Sales and Customer Service Management experience.

ASST. OPERATIONS MANAGER (Code: PDI-AOM)

The candidate will assist the Operations Manager in the above duties. He/She must have previous inbound sales experience & managed a group of supervisors / team leaders.

FACILITIES MANAGER (Code: PDI-FM)

The candidate will be responsible for the general maintenance, security, and upkeep of the office facility, furniture, fixtures and equipment. He/She must have previous related work experience and excellent communication skills.

TEAM CAPTAINS FOR INBOUND SALES (Code: PDI-TCIS) & CUSTOMER SERVICE (Code: PDI-TCCS)

- ✓ 1 year previous supervisory experience a must

FRONT DESK ASSOCIATES (Code: PDI-FDA)

- ✓ Must have excellent English communication skills
- ✓ Previous reception work experience a must

INBOUND SALES CUSTOMER INTERACTION ASSOCIATES (Code: PDI-ISCIA)

- ✓ Must possess English communication skills
- ✓ Must be aggressive with pleasing personality
- ✓ Previous sales experience a must
- ✓ Telemarketing experience a plus

Mail your updated resumé with picture (please indicate the code in the upper right hand corner) to:

ambergris solutions

31/F Discovery Centre, 25 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Or email your resume to: lisa.areglado@ambergrissolutions.com

Walk-ins accepted Mon-Fri between 9:30am-5:30pm. Be prepared for immediate interview.

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JOB OPENING

1. TEACHER

(Araling Panlipunan, Arts, English, Filipino, Physical Education, Science, Preschool)

- BSE/BSED/Early Childhood Ed. Graduate
- Non-educational course with 18 units in Education
- PRC license/teaching experience preferred but not necessary

2. COACHES (basketball/volleyball)

- College Graduate
- Preferably with experience

3. LIBRARIAN

- Bachelor in Library and Information Science Graduate
- PRC License preferred

4. NURSE

- BS Nursing graduate with PRC registration
- Preferably with experience

5. SCOUT MASTER

Applicants should be of good Christian moral character and computer literate.

Bring resumé and transcript of records to:

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Doña Hemady Avenue cor. 4th St.

New Manila, Quezon City

LBP SERVICE CORPORATION

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A prestigious manpower solutions provider, is in need of the following personnel:

50 MEDICAL OFFICERS

To be assigned at the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA), Parañaque City

- Male/Female
- Degree in Medicine
- Not more than 40 years old
- Professional License preferred but not a requirement

APPRAISERS

- Male, not more than 35 years old
- Graduate of any Engineering course with Professional License
- Preferably with experience in any operating banks appraising Real Estate Properties / Personal Properties.

CAD OPERATORS / ENCODERS

- Male, not more than 35 years old
- Must be a Licensed Engineer / Architect
- With at least 3 to 5 years experience in design preparation specifically encoding of plans and drawings involving various Engineering and Architectural disciplines.
- Proficiency in CADD operation, MSWord / Excel is a **must**.

MECHANICAL ENGINEER

- Male, not more than 35 years old
- Registered Mechanical Engineer
- 5 to 7 years experience in project management
- Proficient in the use of MS Word / Excel / Autocad Softwares

Interested applicants are invited to visit our office at the **9th Floor, Century Tower, 100 Tordesillas cor. H.V. dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City.** Inquiries may be directed to **Ms. Valerie R. Lababit** at **753-1625**. You may also email us at **lbpsc@mozcom.com**

Please come in business attire.

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One of the country's leading pre-need companies has job openings for

AREA MANAGERS

(For Metro Manila South, North Central Luzon, Southern Tagalog, Bicol Region, Central Visayas & Western Visayas)

- Male/Female, at least 35 years old
- College graduate preferably of any Business or Management course
- With at least five (5) years of sale management experience
- With administrative ability to organize & develop a sales organization
- Hardworking, dedicated, results-oriented & competitive
- Of good moral character
- With positive and winning attitude

DISTRICT MANAGERS

(For Tarlac, Cabanatuan, Urdaneta, Angeles, Novaliches, Malabon, Cainta, Las Piñas, Batangas, Daet, Iloilo, Dumaguete, Davao, Cagayan de Oro & General Santos)

- Male/Female, at least 30 years old
- College graduate, preferably a major in Marketing/Business Management
- Leadership & management track record Minimum of three (3) years sales management experience
- Able to organize & develop a sales organization
- Good in written and oral communication
- Of good moral character Respected/honorable member of his/her community
- With established residence
- Hardworking, organized and results-oriented
- With positive and winning attitude

TECHNICAL SPECIALIST

- Male, single, between 21-26 years old
- Graduate of a 4-year course with major course work in computer engineering, computer management or related field
- Knowledge of network facilities, computer hardware and software; network operating system and security policies and procedure, and help desk environment
- Skill in communicating technical material; in the use and support of PCs and in troubleshooting information systems
- Ability to troubleshoot/repair computer equipments

CORPORATE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- Male/Female, at least 21 years old
- New graduates are welcome
- Responsible, hardworking and goal-oriented
- Of good moral character
- With positive and winning attitude

FAMILY COUNSELORS (Sales Agents)

For Memorial Park (Metro Manila only)

For Life Plan & Educational Plan (All cities/ municipalities where there are HPPI branches)

- Male/Female, at least 25 years old
- Preferably with sales experience
- Responsible, hardworking and goal oriented
- Of good moral character
- With positive and winning attitude

Attractive compensation and/or commission package await successful candidates.

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The Personnel Department

6th Floor, Triumph Building, 1610 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

Tel. Nos. 927-9671 to 75 * 920-2876 * 929-6611/12 * Fax 926-7328

Or e-mail us at hppijobs@mail.com

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unicef

United Nations Children's Fund

PROJECT OFFICER

Education/Gender and Development (Code: EDUC)

Responsible for coordinating the overall planning, program management and implementation, and financial programming of three projects, namely: basic education, early childhood care and development (ECCD), and gender and development (GAD). As Chief of the Education/GAD section, the incumbent will be responsible for providing strategic technical assistance to national and sub-national government partners in the development of program strategies, new approaches, and policies related to the three projects.

This is a senior level post and requires a minimum of eight years of experience in progressively responsible positions. Also a master's degree in behavioral/social sciences, preferably with specialized training in education, social development, development communication, or management. Strong ability for advocacy and leveraging of non-UNICEF resources in support of basic education, ECCD, and GAD, is a requirement for the post. Ability and experience in comprehensive education sector analysis and strong communication skills, both oral and written will be an advantage. Good computer skills. Willing to travel.

PROJECT OFFICER

Local Policy & Institutional Development (Code: LPID)

Responsible for developing and implementing the overall strategy for alliance building and networking, local resource mobilization, and monitoring of the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Eradication of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) at the sub-national levels. Liaise with regional and local development councils and the technical advisory bodies. Leverage UNICEF financial inputs with local goverment and community investments. Work with programme counterparts to develop mechanisms to monitor adherence to the CRC, CEDAW, and the Child Friendly Movement.

Master's degree or equivalent qualifications in behavioral/social sciences preferably with specialized training in social development, economics, development communication, or management. At least five years' progressively responsible experience in planning, implementation, and monitoring of social development work both at the national and field levels. Excellent advocacy and negotiating skills. Good computer skills. Willing to travel.

For both posts, pls. RUSH application letter together with bio-data to the Operations Officer, UNICEF, P.O. Box 1076 MCPO, 1250 Makati City. Indicate the code on the envelope. Closing date for application is 4 May 2003. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview.

We offer competitive salaries and benefits.
UNICEF is a non-smoking working environment.
Applications from qualified women are encouraged.

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES

JOB VACANCIES

QUEZON CITY CAMPUS

Position	Qualifications
Head Office of Student Affairs	Holder of a Master's Degree in Psychology, Guidance and Counseling, Educational Management, Educational Planning or any other related field, with at least five (5) years satisfactory teaching experience in the tertiary level and at least three (3) years of satisfactory administrative or managerial experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate
Director Student Personnel Services	Holder of a Master's Degree, with adequate administrative and managerial competence in handling student matters, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate
Chair Physical Education	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree, preferably with at least three (3) years of satisfactory teaching experience and two (2) years of satisfactory managerial experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate
Guidance Counselor	Holder of a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling, Psychology or any related field, preferably with one (1) year related work experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate
Electrical Project Consultant / Supervisor	Graduate of BS Electrical Engineering, licensed Professional Electrical Engineer, with at least five (5) years related work experience, good written and oral communication skills, 30-35 years old
Faculty Members : Accountancy & Commerce Architecture Chemical Engineering Civil & Sanitary Engineering Computer Engineering Computer Science/IT/IM Electrical Engineering Electronics & Communications Engineering Industrial Engineering Marine Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mathematics & Physics Physical Education English Filipino Social Sciences	Holder of an appropriate Bachelor's Degree, with required license, with Master's Degree along undergraduate studies & field of specialization, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time/part time
Network In-Charge	Holder of any Computer related Bachelor's Degree, has experience in Network Structure and design for voice/data, knowledge and experience in implementing ASP model is an advantage, with technical documentation/web design skills, can operate and administer major networking operating system, can configure routers, knowledge and experience in check point administration, knowledge in wireless connection, with at least three (3) years related work experience, good written and oral communication skills
Training Assistant	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Guidance & Counseling, or any Behavioral Sciences, good oral and written communication skills, of good moral character, computer literate, single, female
Librarian	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science, with appropriate professional license, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate
Accounting Clerk	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, good oral and written communications skills, of good moral character, computer literate
ECE Laboratory Technician	Holder of a Bachelor's degree in ECE/EE, with at least (1) year related work experience, good in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate
Computer Custodian	Holder of a computer related vocational course, with strong knowledge in computer, of good moral character, willing to render long hours of work

Interested parties who meet the above requrements may inquire / apply with their resume, picture, transcript of records and other pertinent documents at the:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. 911-0140
tip_hrd@yahoo.com

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES

JOB VACANCIES

MANILA CAMPUS

Position	Qualifications
Chair Marine Engineering Dept.	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree or with at least 15 units in Master's and with appropriate Professional License, with shipboard experience, preferably with at least 3 years of satisfactory teaching and 2 years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time
Chair Physical Education Dept.	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree required for at least bachelor's degree, preferable with at least 3 years of satisfactory teaching experience and 2 years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate
Guidance Counselor	Holder of an appropriate Bachelor's Degree with Master's Degree in Psychology, Guidance and Counseling or any related field, with at least 1 year related work experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate
Professional Electrical Engineer	Licensed Professional Electrical Engineer, with at least 1 year related work experience, not more than 35 years old, full time
Faculty Members Architecture Accountancy Chemical Engineering Civil & Sanitary Engineering Computer Engineering Computer Science Electrical Engineering Electronics & Communications Engineering English Filipino Marine Engineering Marine Transportation Mathematics & Physics Mechanical Engineering Physical Education Social Sciences	Holder of an appropriate Bachelor's Degree, with required license, with Master's Degree along undergraduate studies & field of specialization, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time / part time
Help Desk Coordinator	Holder of a computer related Bachelor's Degree, preferably with knowledge in basic troubleshooting of computers and printer, operating systems (MS DOS, Windows 95/98/ME/2000/XP, Linux), office suite (MS Office, Star Office, Open Office), at least one year related work experience, proficient in oral & written communication, of good moral character, willing to render long hours of work
Computer Laboratory Software Specialist	Holder of a computer related Bachelor's Degree, preferably with strong knowledge in operating systems, office suite, specialized in engineering software, network connection, IP addressing and other network protocols, at least one year related work experience, proficient in oral & written communication, of good moral character, willing to render long hours of work
Computer Laboratory Junior Technician	Holder of a computer related Bachelor's Degree or Vocational Course, preferably with strong knowledge in troubleshooting of computers and printer and basic electrical and electronics, with knowledge in operating system, office suite, specialized engineering software, network connection, IP addressing and other network protocols is an advantage, at least one year related work experience, proficient in oral & written communication, of good moral character, willing to render long hours of work.
Computer Custodian	Holder of a computer related Vocational Course, with strong knowledge in computer, of good moral character, willing to render long hours of work
Badminton Coach	Degree holder who specializes on the different fields of Sports, at least certified coach in Badminton, with at least 3 years related work experience, can design a training program for his team, proficient in oral & written communication, of good moral character

Interested parties who meet the above requirements may apply personally with their resume, ID picture, transcript of records and other pertinent documents at the:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
363 P.Casal St., Quiapo, Manila
Tel. 734-3631

Part-Time Jobs

Residents of Cebu & Davao

- college graduate
- computer literate
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E-mail: data_set@consultant.com

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NETWORK ENGINEER

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Computer Engineering or ECE
- Must have 1-2 years experience in computer networking
- Proficient with E-mail and Internet Administration
- Knowledge in Windows NT 4/2000

Responsibilities:

- Administers E-mail and Internet clients on Linux Server
- Provides network technical support to end users
- Troubleshoots complex network and infrastructures issues
- Performs network cabling, termination, testing and installation of Network Interface cards
- Maintains, configures and upgrades Windows NT 4/2000

ADVERTISING PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Knowledge in Computer Office and Layouting software operations
- College Graduate
- Must have hands-on experience in proofreading and layouting pages / advertisements

Responsibilities:

- Shall proofread and design layout of the newspaper pages and advertisements
- Entertains supplement / People, Events and Products editorial inquiries

CIRCULATION FIELDMAN

Qualifications:

- Graduate of any Business Course
- With excellent customer relations skills
- Familiar with the street network of Metro Manila

Responsibilities:

- Shall visit and monitor agents' sales performance
- Handles inquiries and complaints of agents

If you are interested, kindly mail your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

RAMCAR GROUP OF COMPANIES

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for the following Job Opportunities :

QUALITY SYSTEMS ENGINEER & Q.A. SUPERVISOR

- *Male/Female, 21-30 years old; B.S. M.E./ChE or Statistics graduate.*
- *Must have at least 2 years related work experience as Q.S./ Q.A. Engineer preferably in a large manufacturing concern.*
- *Must have exposure on ISO 9000/14000, SPC, TQM, 5S, Kaizen and other Quality Systems.*
- *Excellent communication and leadership skills.*

SALES TRAINING ASSISTANT

- *Male, 23-30 years old; Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Business course.*
- *Pref. with at least 1 year experience in Sales Training (preparation of sales training modules and related tasks).*
- *Must possess excellent communication, interpersonal and leadership skills.*

MERCHANDISING SERVICES ASSOCIATE

- *Male, 21-25 years old; College graduate.*
- *Organized, with good communication skills and knowledgeable on MS Office Applications.*
- *Will be responsible in assisting the Brand Management Group in various activities.*
- *Willing to do field work and preferably with valid Driver's License.*

ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS
NETWORK ENGINEER

- *Male, 23-30 years old; Graduate of any IT-related course with good scholastic records.*
- *With at least 1 year related work experience in the given IT field.*
- *Highly computer literate and with excellent communication and interpersonal skills.*
- *Willing to work long hours.*

HELPDESK STAFF

- *Male, 21-28 years old; Graduate of any IT-related course.*
- *FRESH Graduates can be considered.*
- *Willing to work long hours and on shifting schedule.*
- *Highly computer literate and with excellent communication skills.*

WE OFFER ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION & BENEFITS PACKAGE.

ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH THEIR RESUME, 2X2 PICTURE AND T.O.R. TO:

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RAMCAR CENTER
80-82 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

**** Previous applicants need not apply.***

Our Company, **ISON INFOSYSTEM**, a pioneer in specialized solutions for corporate and government and with international affiliates, is looking for SELF-DRIVEN, CREATIVE and DYNAMIC PROFESSIONALS who can be a part of our fast growing team.

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URGENT OPENINGS / FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING:

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANTS / INFORMATION ASSISTANTS & CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER / OFFICER

- ☐ Excellent Oral and Written Communication Skills
- ☐ With pleasing personality
- ☐ For Manager: at least 3 years managerial experience

PROJECT MANAGERS

- ☐ Excellent Oral and Written Communication Skills
- ☐ At least 3 years project management experience
- ☐ Excellent leadership skills and pleasing personality

ENCODERS

- ☐ With I.T. Background preferred

OFFICE ASSISTANTS

- ☐ With pleasing personality
- ☐ Computer literate

DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR / SENIOR DATABASE PROGRAMMERS

- ☐ At least 2 years experience
- ☐ Proficiency in JAVA, J2EE, Server lets, JAVA Beans
- ☐ Working knowledge in:
  - JAVA, ASP, XML, J2EE, Server lets, JAVA Beans
  - Database - Preferably in DB2
  - OS - NT, LINUX, UNIX

WEB DESIGNER / WEB DEVELOPERS

- ☐ Proficient in web applications (MACROMEDIA, JAVA Script)
- ☐ Knowledgeable in web languages (HTML, PHTML, ASP)
- ☐ Fast learner, friendly and with 2 years experience

GRAPHIC ARTISTS

- ☐ Proficient in Adobe Photoshop, Corel Draw and other graphic designing software
- ☐ Knowledgeable in the use of graphics and web programs such as Macromedia Dreamweaver, Flash, Fireworks, etc.
- ☐ Fast learner, friendly and with at least 2 years experience

SYSTEM ANALYST

- ☐ Graduate of Computer Science / Computer Engineering or related courses
- ☐ Knowledge in Database Administration (preferably DB2) and Programming, E-Commerce and M-Commerce
- ☐ At least 3 years relevant work experience in the following applications:
  - JAVA, SQL, Visual Basic, Web Development, ASP, Windows Operating System

SALES AND MARKETING EXECUTIVES & (1) MANAGER

- ☐ At least 1 year experience in Sales and Marketing, with Advertising experience preferred; for Manager - at least 3 years experience
- ☐ Excellent Oral and Written Communication Skills
- ☐ Can write proposals, reports, letters and other marketing materials
- ☐ With pleasing personality
- ☐ With IT background preferred

PURCHASERS

- ☐ With at least 2 years experience gained in an IT / Computer Company
- ☐ Computer literate in Hardware, Software and Accessories

Please mail or send or e-mail your resumé and other credentials to:

ISON INFOSYSTEMS, INC.
2/F I.T. Development Center
4585 Baron Street corner Montojo Street, Tejeros Makati City
Tel. no. 895-4505; 895-3410 email: jps@go2ph.net

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

REFRIGERATION TECHNICIAN

QUALIFICATIONS:

1 GRADUATE OF AT LEAST THREE (3) YEARS COURSE IN REFRIGERATION & AIR CONDITIONING TECHNOLOGY.

2 AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS EXPERIENCE ON SERVICE AND INSTALLATION OF WALK-IN FREEZER & CHILLER AND LARGE COLD STORAGE.

3 BE ABLE TO FINISH A PROJECT WITH MINIMAL SUPERVISION.

4 TWENTY FIVE (25) TO THIRTY FIVE (35) YEARS OF AGE.

5 WILLING TO WORK ON LONG HOURS.

6 CERTIFIED PLANT MECHANIC (CPM) LICENSE HOLDER PREFERED.

Please send your latest resumé with 2x2 picture at:
UMC A/C & REFRIGERATION CONTRACTOR, INC.
948 Espeleta Street, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. : 7338241
Look for: Mr. Lito Callanta

An International School in Jakarta is looking for trained teachers

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Please send by **25th April 2003**, your CV (with recent photograph) stating full particulars of teaching qualification, experience, interest and expected salary to :

Miss Nanda Bandara
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Makati, Metro Manila
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LIFESTYLE REPORTER

Qualifications:

- College graduate preferably major in Journalism or Mass Communication
- Must have at least 3 years experience in writing articles related to Lifestyle areas such as: Arts and Culture, Food, Fitness, Fashion, Home and Design, and Family Life.

If you are interested, kindly mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé and copies of some of your published articles to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

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A leader of outsourced customer management solutions for leading companies, Sykes can provide you the technology and opportunity you need to start a dynamic future. We seek innovative people with the ability to listen and understand the needs of the customer, while focusing on the solution and not the problem.

Sr. Account Manager (SAM)

- College graduate of any course
- At least 2 years Account Management experience, preferably gained from a Call Center industry
- Excellent people management and negotiation skills
- Knowledgeable in budget management
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

Account Manager (AM)

- College graduate of any course
- At least 1 year Account Management or supervisory experience, preferably gained from a Call Center Industry
- Excellent people management and negotiation skills
- Knowledgeable in budget management
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

Quality Coach (QC)

- College graduate of Finance, Industrial Engineering, Applied Math or any related course
- At least 6 months to 1 1/2 years relevant QA experience
- Excellent data analysis and problem solving skills with knowledge in statistics and documentation
- Working knowledge in MS Word, Excel, Standardization Programs and QA Tools

Multi-lingual Customer Service Representatives (MCSR)

- Fluent communication skills in any of the following:
  - Mandarin
  - Korean
  - Cantonese
  - Japanese

Travel Counselors (TC)

- Must at least possess a minimum of two years travel/airline experience
- Proficient in GDS such as Abacus, Galileo Amadeus and/or other airline system such as Speedwing, Gabriel and Sonic
- Fluent in written and verbal English
- Willing to work in variable work shifts and extended hours
- Knowledgeable in MS Applications and Internet usage
- Willing to work in shifting schedule

Language Trainers (Lang Trnrs)

- American Nationals / American Trained Filipinos
- Excellent Conversational English
- College Graduate
- Willing to work on shift scheduling
- Familiar with the facets of American Language Training
- Experience in teaching ESL modules, an advantage

Training Officer (Trng Ofcr)

- College graduate of Psychology, Human Resources Management or any related field
- At least 3 years experience in Training and Organizational Development
- Knowledgeable in designing Training modules
- Experience in teaching ESL modules, an advantage
- Fluent in written and verbal English
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

Technical Support Engineers (TSE)

- College graduate of any computer related Course
- Knowledgeable in SQL Servers, XML, DCOM, COM/COM+
- MCP or MCSE Certifications, an advantage
- Fluent in written and verbal English
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

Customer Service Representatives (CSR)

- College graduate of any course
- Related experience from the same industry, an advantage
- Fluent in written and verbal English
- Knowledgeable in MS Applications and Internet Usage
- Willing to work in shifting schedule

Telemarketers (TM)

- College graduate of any course
- Experience in sales and marketing, preferred
- Fluent in written and verbal English
- Knowledgeable in MS Applications and Internet Usage
- Willing to work in shifting schedule

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At SYKES, everything you need to achieve your goals is within your reach. In addition to a challenging work environment and opportunities for career advancement, we provide a well-rounded, flexible selection of benefits:

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- Medical and Group Insurances
- Training
- Skills and Personality Development
- Sykes University Online

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Attention: HR-Recruitment
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Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1200
E-mail: hrd@man.ph.sykes.com
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Interested applicants, please see us any day except Sunday, 9-5 Rm. 210 Narra Bldg., 2276 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City

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ORTIGAS BASED COMPANY URGENTLY NEEDS

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

Graduate of any courses such as Management, Accounting, Computer Courses, Nursing, PT, OT, RT, Med-Tech, Education, HRM, Masscom
• 21-35 years old

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

At least 2nd year College of any course • 24-38 years old

Interested parties may apply personally with RESUME, any original credential/1 valid ID. Hiring will start on April 21-26 '03, 8 AM - 5 PM Mon.-Sat.

Apply at:
P.P.P.I., Suite 808 West Tower Phil. Stock Exchange Center, formerly Tektite Tower Exchange Road, Ortigas Center Pasig City (Back of Mega Mall near San Miguel Bldg.)
"FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS. PLS. CLIP THIS AD"
(No fees to be collected)

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Come and join us at the Glorietta Activity Center on **May 12-14, 2003** and be part of a bigger and grander **Inquirer Job Market's JOBZ Employment Expo 2003.**

We guarantee your company GREAT PUBLICITY with BIG OPPORTUNITIES at the RIGHT TIME and of course, GOOD VALUE for your hard-earned money.

Proof to our promise is the successful string of Inquirer Job Market job fairs and resumé central held for the past 6 years. We have paved the way for hundreds and hundreds of the country's top and most respected corporations to converge with thousands of individuals in quest for the right job or career advancement.

For more details, please contact any Inquirer Classified Ads Executive or email us at mcabuhat@inquirer.com.ph.

☐ Yes, I'm interested in joining the Inquirer Job Market's JOBZ Employment Expo 2003 in Glorietta.

☐ Please call me ☐ Please send me more information

Company Name: ______________ Phone Number/s: ______________
Address: ______________ Fax Number ______________
______________ Contact person: ______________

Kindly fill-up this form and fax it to any Inquirer branch near you.

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Makati Branch
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811-4012 • 892-5578

Quezon City Branch
912-9008 to 10 • 912-90

Mandaluyong Branch
635-0219 • 637-2008 • 635220

Manila Branch
527-3342 • 528-0183
528-0186 • 528-0213

Provincial Branch
897-8808 loc. 243
899-4427(Direct) • 897-84

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urgently needs ...

ACCOUNTING/FINANCE MANAGERS

- Female, between 28 to 38 years old
- CPA, with at least two (2) years experience in Treasury, Financial Planning & Control, Accounting & Reconciliation, Budgeting and other related functions, in a managerial capacity
- Must have high attention to detail and great numerical skills
- Highly motivated and results oriented
- Must be computer literate and an excellent leader

MERCHANDISE MANAGERS

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of a 4-year business related course preferably with excellent academic records
- with at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business in the same capacity
- Must have good communication skills
- Must be analytical, results-oriented, artistic, creative and with good fashion sense

AUDIT MANAGER/ANALYST

- Female, at least 26 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year degree course
- With at least two (2) years actual work exposure in External/Internal Audit
- Must posess a pleasing and dynamic personality, positive work attitude, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Highly motivated, results-oriented and hardworking
- Analytical and must have good communication skills

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of Management, Business Administration, Marketing, Economics or any business related course
- Preferably with at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business with focus in Marketing
- Must be good in Information Research, Project Management, Coordination & Analysis
- Must posess an analytical mind, be able to command respect and deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must posess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Must be computer literate

HUMAN RESOURCE SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of Accounting, Finance or any business related course
- At least one (1) year experience in payroll and benefits (knowledge in Peopleware System is an advantage)
- Highly computer literate with extensive knowledge in Word, Excel and Outlook
- Fluent in both oral and written communication
- People-oriented, trustworthy and able to work under pressure

ACCOUNTING/FINANCE SUPERVISOR

- Between, 21 to 35 years old
- Accounting graduate, preferably CPA
- Must be results oriented and highly analytical
- With one or two years work experience in accounting field
- Must be computer literate
- Willing to work beyond regular working hours

PRODUCT QUALITY AND CONTROL COORDINATOR

- Female, between 21 to 28 years old
- Graduate of Clothing Technology, computer literate
- Knowledge in garments specification and standards
- Background in apparel is an advantage
- Fluent in both oral and written communication skills

SALES ASSOCIATES

- Between 18-28 years old
- At least 2 yrs. college level
- 5'2" in height with clear complexion
- Must have initiative, ability and sustained interest in selling
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Good in oral communication skills

Those who meet the qualifications mentioned may send their comprehensive resumé with contact number, transcript of records and recent 2x2 photo to:

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
HUMAN RESOURCE & ORGANIZATION
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
El Mercasol Bldg.
EDSA, Mandaluyong City

URGENT HIRING

1 PROJECT MANAGER
2 COST ENGINEER
2 QUANTITY SURVEYOR
2 OFFICE ENGINEER

Preferably Pipe laying Exp. & Reservoir Const.
BS Civil Engineer Graduate, Licenced
Proficient in Computer & AutoCad Exp.
35 years old above

2 ACCOUNTANT
2 BOOKKEEPER
2 LIAISON OFFICER

Proficient in Computer Software Application With Construction Experience

Apply @ EVP REALTY DEVT. CONST.
On April 21-25, 2003 @ 2-5 PM to:
461 Remedios Street, cor.
MH Del Pilar Malate Mla.
Tel. Nos.: 404-27[illegible]5; 536-1841

URGENTLY NEEDED
(1) PERSONNEL CLERK
(1) SECRETARY

- College graduate, Computer literate
- Proficient in written & oral communication

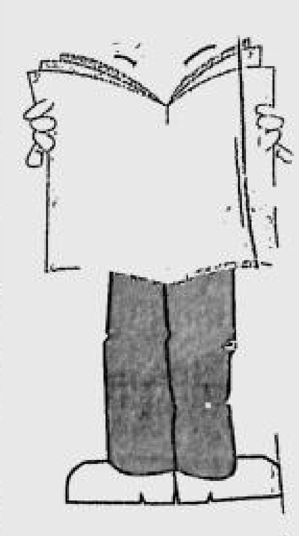
Apply at #9 Capricorn St., Carmel V, Subd., Banlat, T. Sora, QC. Tel. No. 930-4672/77

WANTED

30 staff auditors

Male and Female, accounting graduates, in their early 20's, proficient in the use of computerized office productivity tools such as Excel and Word, will be the ideal candidate. Assignments will primarily be in Metro Manila, although some travel may be required.

The requirement is urgent, hence, starting April 21, 2003, interested parties may bring their resumé to Ms. Kat Nolasco, at Manila Consulting, Unit 2106, 88 Corporate Center, Valero corner Sedeño Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City. Tel. 830-2033.



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Sr. Account Manager (SAM)
- College graduate of any course
- At least 2 years Account Management experience, preferably gained from a Call Center industry
- Excellent people management and negotiation skills
- Knowledgeable in budget management
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

Account Manager (AM)
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Quality Coach (QC)
- College graduate of Finance, Industrial Engineering, Applied Math or any related course
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- Working knowledge in MS Word, Excel, Standardization Programs and QA Tools

Multi-lingual Customer Service Representatives (MCSR)
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  - Mandarin
  - Korean
  - Cantonese
  - Japanese

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- Must at least possess a minimum of two years travel/airline experience
- Proficient in GDS such as Abacus, Galileo, Amadeus and/or other airline systems such as Speedwing, Gabriel and Sonic
- Fluent in written and verbal English
- Willing to work in variable work shifts and extended hours
- Knowledgeable in MS Applications and Internet usage
- Willing to work in shifting schedule

Language Trainers (Lang Trnrs)
- American Nationals / American Trained Filipinos
- Excellent Conversational English
- College Graduate
- Willing to work on shift scheduling
- Familiar with the facets of American Language Training
- Experience in teaching ESL modules, an advantage

Training Officer (Trng Ofcr)
- College graduate of Psychology, Human Resources Management or any related field
- At least 3 years experience in Training and Organizational Development
- Knowledgeable in designing Training modules
- Experience in teaching ESL modules, an advantage
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- Willing to work on shifting schedule

Technical Support Engineers (TSE)
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- Knowledgeable in SQL Servers, XML, DCOM, COM/COM+
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Telemarketers (TM)
- College graduate of any course
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- Knowledgeable in MS Applications and Internet Usage
- Willing to work in shifting schedule

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Benefits

At SYKES, everything you need to achieve your goals is within your reach. In addition to a challenging work environment and opportunities for career advancement, we provide a well-rounded, flexible selection of benefits:

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Interested applicants, please see us any day except Sunday, 9-5 at Rm. 210 Narra Bldg., 2276 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City

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ORTIGAS BASED COMPANY *URGENTLY NEEDS*

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

Graduate of any courses such as Management, Accounting, Computer Courses, Nursing, P.T., O.T., R.T., Med-Tech, Education, HRM, Masscom
• 21-35 years old

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

At least 2nd year College of any course • 24-38 years old

Interested parties may apply personally with RESUME, any original credential/ • valid ID. Hiring will start on April 21-26 '03, 8 AM - 5 PM Mon.-Sat.

Apply at:

P.P.P.I., Suite 808 West Tower, Phil. Stock Exchange Center, formerly Tektite Tower Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City (Back of Mega Mall near San Miguel Bldg.)
"FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS. PLS. CLIP THIS AD"
(No fees to be collected)

In need of fresh minds to join your growing company?

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JOBZ

Come and join us at the Glorietta Activity Center on **May 12-14, 2003** and be part of a bigger and grander **Inquirer Job Market's JOBZ Employment Expo 2003.**

We guarantee your company GREAT PUBLICITY with BIG OPPORTUNITIES at the RIGHT TIME and of course, GOOD VALUE for your hard-earned money.

Proof to our promise is the successful string of Inquirer Job Market job fairs and resumé central held for the past 6 years. We have paved the way for hundreds and hundreds of the country's top and most respected corporations to converge with thousands of individuals in quest for the right job or career advancement.

For more details, please contact any Inquirer Classified Ads Executive or email us at mcabuhat@inquirer.com.ph.

☐ Yes, I'm interested in joining the Inquirer Job Market's JOBZ Employment Expo 2003 in Glorietta.

☐ Please call me ☐ Please send me more information

Company Name: ____________
Address: ____________
Phone Number/s: ____________
Fax Number: ____________
Contact person: ____________

Kindly fill-up this form and fax it to any Inquirer branch near you.

Employment Expo 2003 at Glorietta [May 12 to 14]

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897-8808 loc. 514, 516
8978425 (Direct) • 897-8425

Makati Branch
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811-4012 • 892-5578

Quezon City Branch
912-9008 to 10 • 912-9011

Mandaluyong Branch
635-0219 • 637-2008 • 635-0220

Manila Branch
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Provincial Branch
897-8808 loc. 243
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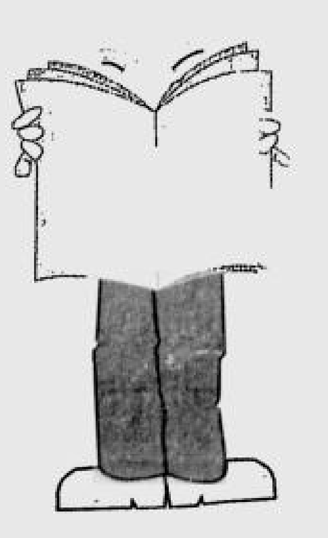

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Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Rustan's

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ACCOUNTING/FINANCE MANAGERS

- Female, between 28 to 38 years old
- CPA, with at least two (2) years experience in Treasury, Financial Planning & Control, Accounting & Reconciliation, Budgeting and other related functions, in a managerial capacity
- Must have high attention to detail and great numerical skills
- Highly motivated and results oriented
- Must be computer literate and an excellent leader

MERCHANDISE MANAGERS

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of a 4-year business related course preferably with excellent academic records
- with at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business in the same capacity
- Must have good communication skills
- Must be analytical, results-oriented, artistic, creative and with good fashion sense

AUDIT MANAGER/ANALYST

- Female, at least 26 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year degree course
- With at least two (2) years actual work exposure in External/Internal Audit
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, positive work attitude, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Highly motivated, results-oriented and hardworking
- Analytical and must have good communication skills

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of Management, Business Administration, Marketing, Economics or any business related course
- Preferably with at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business with focus in Marketing
- Must be good in Information Research, Project Management, Coordination & Analysis
- Must possess an analytical mind, be able to command respect and deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Must be computer literate

HUMAN RESOURCE SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of Accounting, Finance or any business related course
- At least one (1) year experience in payroll and benefits (knowledge in Peopleware System is an advantage)
- Highly computer literate with extensive knowledge in Word, Excel and Outlook
- Fluent in both oral and written communication
- People-oriented, trustworthy and able to work under pressure

ACCOUNTING/FINANCE SUPERVISOR

- Between, 21 to 35 years old
- Accounting graduate, preferably CPA
- Must be results oriented and highly analytical
- With one or two years work experience in accounting field
- Must be computer literate
- Willing to work beyond regular working hours

PRODUCT QUALITY AND CONTROL COORDINATOR

- Female, between 21 to 28 years old
- Graduate of Clothing Technology, computer literate
- Knowledge in garments specification and standards
- Background in apparel is an advantage
- Fluent in both oral and written communication skills

SALES ASSOCIATES

- Between 18-28 years old
- At least 2 yrs. college level
- 5'2" in height with clear complexion
- Must have initiative, ability and sustained interest in selling
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Good in oral communication skills

Those who meet the qualifications mentioned may send their comprehensive resumé with contact number, transcript of records and recent 2x2 photo to:

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
HUMAN RESOURCE & ORGANIZATION
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
El Mercasol Bldg.
EDSA, Mandaluyong City

URGENT HIRING

1 PROJECT MANAGER
2 COST ENGINEER
2 QUANTITY SURVEYOR
2 OFFICE ENGINEER
Preferably Pipe Laying Exp. & Reservoir Const.
BS Civil Engineer Graduate, Licenced
Proficient in Computer & AutoCad Exp.
35 years old above
2 ACCOUNTANT
2 BOOKKEEPER
2 LIAISON OFFICER
Proficient in Computer Software Application With Construction Experience

Apply @ EVP REALTY DEVT. CONST.
On April 21-25, 2003 @ 2-5 PM to:
461 Remedios Street, cor.
MH Del Pilar Malate Mla.
Tel. Nos.: 404-2755; 536-1841

URGENTLY NEEDED
(1) PERSONNEL CLERK
(1) SECRETARY

- College graduate, Computer literate
- Proficient in written & oral communication

Apply at #9 Capricorn St., Carmel V, Subd., Banlat, T. Sora, Q.C. Tel. No. 930 4672/77

WANTED

30 staff auditors

Male and Female, accounting graduates, in their early 20's, proficient in the use of computerized office productivity tools such as Excel and Word, will be the ideal candidate. Assignments will primarily be in Metro Manila, although some travel may be required.

The requirement is urgent, hence, starting April 21, 2003, interested parties may bring their resumé to Ms. Kat Nolasco, at Manila Consulting, Unit 2106, 88 Corporate Center, Valero corner Sedeño Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City. Tel. 830-2033.

'As a new manager, how can I make my mark?'

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: I just got a big promotion to be the manager of my department. I thought everybody would rally around me as a former employee, but instead it feels like an invisible wall has gone up all around me. Are there some things I can do to show them I'm going to be a different kind of boss?

Still The Same Old Joe

Recently my five-year-old daughter (a veritable font of business insights) announced that she knew what she was made of. "Snakes and snails and puppy dog tails?" I teased. "No," she said derisively, "that's boys. I'm made of skin and bones and imagination!"

Well (again, not wanting to draw too close a parallel between my daughter and your career), it strikes me that there's a certain similarity between her sense of anatomy and your new job. That is, you seem to have captured the "skin and bones" of the people who report to you (their bodies show up for work), but you haven't yet fired their imaginations by showing them what an inspiring leader you can be.

Unfortunately, that's not something a promotion automatically drops in your lap. It's something you've got to earn. Hopefully the following tips will help. For more advice, check out "Flight of the Buffalo" by James Belasco and Ralph Stayer (Warner Books, 1994).

Are you giving your workers the responsibility and authority they need to do their jobs? Don't make that old mistake of expecting your workers to win the race while you're holding onto the reins. The best thing you can do to prove you're a different kind of boss is to set the standards high—then give your employees room to decide how to get those standards met.

Are you a good coach? And I don't mean the kind of coach who barks, "drop down and give me 20 (pushups)." You want to prove to your employees that you're genuinely interested in their development. Jointly develop a "skills improvement plan" with each employee and meet regularly to review each person's progress. Annual reviews are a joke; you should be talking with your people monthly about their strengths and weaknesses.

Have you shown your employees that you're attentive to their concerns? Managers expect people to jump at their orders—but few managers set records when it comes to responding to their workers' wishes. If you want to be respected, walk your talk. Make your corner of the bureaucracy more responsive to the people who report to you.

The fact is you aren't the same old Joe anymore because, like it or not, you're now signing paychecks. But one thing hasn't changed: your ability to see the obstacles you saw so clearly when you were on the other side. And that gives you your biggest chance to tear down that invisible wall: you can use your power as a manager to do something about the bureaucratic folderol that drives employees mad. It may not be easy, but if you just use a little imagination...

(Mr. Rosner is the author of "The Boss's Survival Guide," McGraw Hill 2001, and "Working Wounded," Warner 2000, a speaker and founder of the award-winning Working Wounded.com and Retention Evangelist.com. He is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. Email him at bob@workingwounded.com.*)*

MaNaGeR
StephB

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

Personality differences...

(From page O10)

meaningful ways, or gets mired in its own internal power struggle. That's why Socializers, who are good at smoothing over rough edges and encouraging all to share their thoughts and feelings, can be a key here.

Many groups, of course, never transcend this them-versus-us mindset. They're continue to silently debate: "Who's the 'top dog?'" "Who stands to gain the most and who'll likely come up the loser?" Such a team isn't likely to accomplish much. Instead, members will continuously collide with one another, limiting themselves as a team and as individuals.

But if the Socializer, with his or her upbeat attitude and people skills, can get the members to quit keeping score, they may yet learn to work together. If the Socializer can convince them that who's in charge is less important than who has what know-how and attitudes, the group will have entered the next phase.

Phase Three: coming together

Cooperation and collaboration become increasingly apparent, and it's now that Relaters can give the group a boost. Because they are especially good at coalescing differing views, the Relaters help meld individual differences into group progress.

By opening their hearts and heads to one another, the Relaters, or others with Relater-like behavior, can blend the discordant elements into more of a single melody. The team begins to narrow the gap between what it earlier said it wanted to do and what it's actually doing.

There's been a shift of identity, and it's become a true team because members who previously thought in terms of "me," begin thinking "we."

Phase Four: reaching for stardom

The final stage is more the exception than the rule. But, when reached, it means a team really is performing at its best and highest use, that it's functioning as a whole, not just as a collection of individuals.

Its members enjoy being part of the team and express that fact. They've learned how to work together. Morale is high. The group continually produces quality and quantity output and is effectively self-managing.

In the previous three stages, Director-type behavior might have been called for on key decisions. But at this stage, a hands-on, controlling style isn't needed. In fact, once a group has this momentum, such a strong-handed style can be counterproductive and could even torpedo the group's progress. Instead, the team's decisions flow naturally from its deliberations. Differences among its members become a source of strength, not dispute.

Love 'em or hate 'em, work groups are here to stay. (Some estimates are that as much as 50 percent to 80 percent of a manager's time, for example, is spent with groups. But while they can be high-performance vehicles, they can also be high-maintenance, especially in the early stages. Both the team's creator and its members need to carefully watch the process.

Only a team that fully understands and savors its members' styles is likely to be genuinely productive.

If members were chosen carefully and if they practice adaptability, the advantages of stylistic diversity can quickly outweigh the group's liabilities. Remember: We're talking about personality differences here, not deficiencies.

So, in the final analysis, working with groups all comes down to suspending judgment, empathizing, and trying to play to people's strengths. The result, despite our differences, can be a wonderful synergy.

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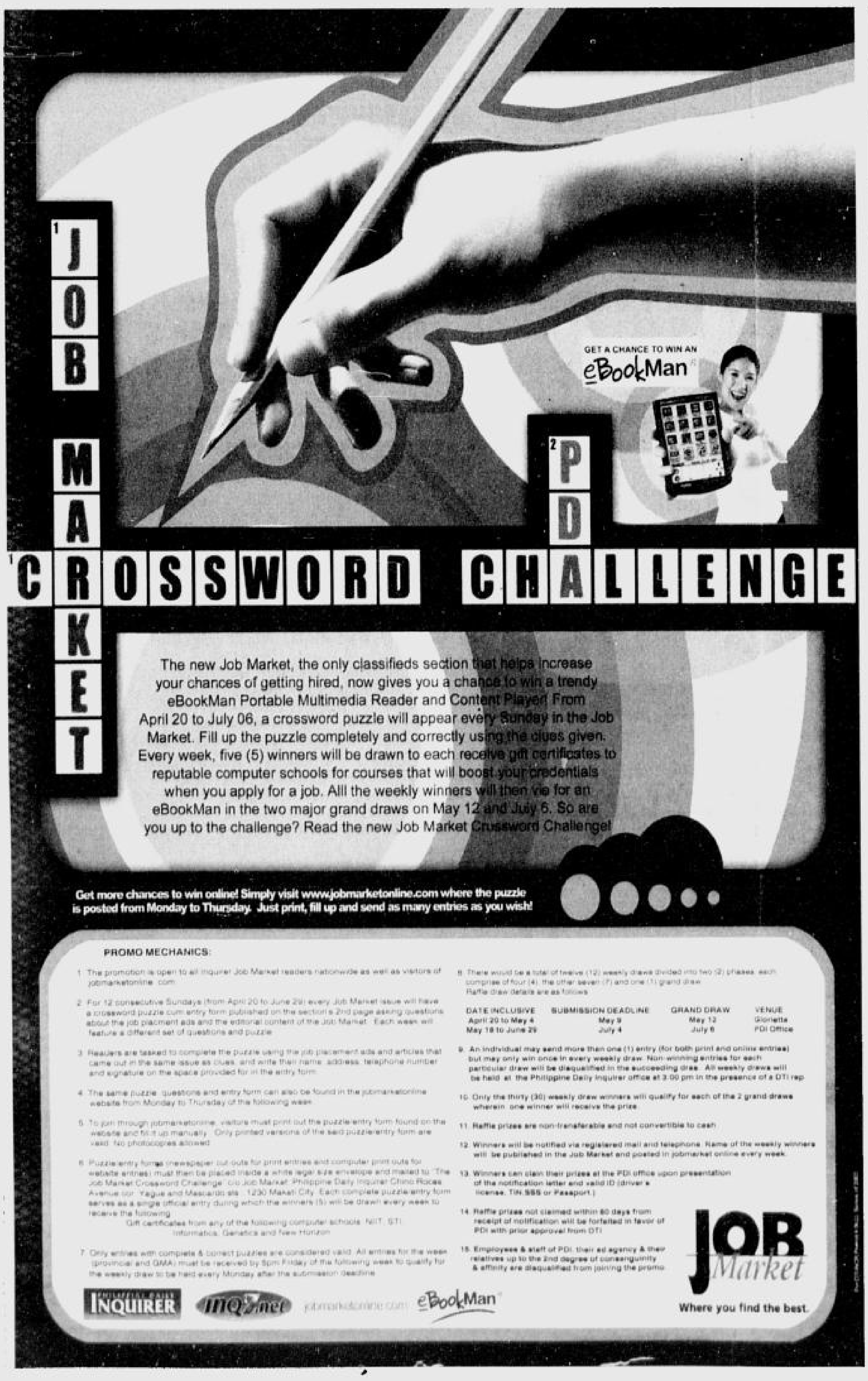

The new Job Market, the only classifieds section that helps increase your chances of getting hired, now gives you a chance to win a trendy eBookMan Portable Multimedia Reader and Content Player! From April 20 to July 06, a crossword puzzle will appear every Sunday in the Job Market. Fill up the puzzle completely and correctly using the clues given. Every week, five (5) winners will be drawn to each receive gift certificates to reputable computer schools for courses that will boost your credentials when you apply for a job. Alll the weekly winners will then vie for an eBookMan in the two major grand draws on May 12 and July 6. So are you up to the challenge? Read the new Job Market Crossword Challenge!

Get more chances to win online! Simply visit www.jobmarketonline.com where the puzzle is posted from Monday to Thursday. Just print, fill up and send as many entries as you wish!

PROMO MECHANICS:

1. The promotion is open to all Inquirer Job Market readers nationwide as well as visitors of jobmarketonline. com
2. For 12 consecutive Sundays (from April 20 to June 29) every Job Market issue will have a crossword puzzle cum entry form published on the section's 2nd page asking questions about the job placment ads and the editorial content of the Job Market. Each week will feature a different set of questions and puzzle
3. Readers are tasked to complete the puzzle using the job placement ads and articles that came out in the same issue as clues, and write their name, address, telephone number and signature on the space provided for in the entry form
4. The same puzzle, questions and entry form can also be found in the jobmarketonline website from Monday to Thursday of the following week
5. To join through jobmarketonline, visitors must print out the puzzle/entry form found on the website and fill it up manually. Only printed versions of the said puzzle/entry form are valid. No photocopies allowed
6. Puzzle/entry forms (newspaper cut outs for print entries and computer print outs for website entries) must then be placed inside a white legal size envelope and mailed to "The Job Market Crossword Challenge" c/o Job Market, Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces Avenue cor. Yague and Mascardo sts., 1230 Makati City. Each complete puzzle/entry form serves as a single official entry during which the winners (5) will be drawn every week to receive the following:
Gift certificates from any of the following computer schools: NIIT, STI, Informatics, Genetics and New Horizon
7. Only entries with complete & correct puzzles are considered valid. All entries for the week (provincial and GMA) must be received by 5pm Friday of the following week to qualify for the weekly draw to be held every Monday after the submission deadline
8. There would be a total of twelve (12) weekly draws divided into two (2) phases, each comprise of four (4), the other seven (7) and one (1) grand draw.
Raffle draw details are as follows:

DATE INCLUSIVE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	GRAND DRAW	VENUE
April 20 to May 4	May 9	May 12	Glorietta
May 18 to June 29	July 4	July 6	PDI Office

9. An individual may send more than one (1) entry (for both print and online entries) but may only win once in every weekly draw. Non-winning entries for each particular draw will be disqualified in the succeeding draw. All weekly draws will be held at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office at 3:00 pm in the presence of a DTI rep
10. Only the thirty (30) weekly draw winners will qualify for each of the 2 grand draws wherein one winner will receive the prize
11. Raffle prizes are non-transferable and not convertible to cash
12. Winners will be notified via registered mail and telephone. Name of the weekly winners will be published in the Job Market and posted in jobmarket online every week
13. Winners can claim their prizes at the PDI office upon presentation of the notification letter and valid ID (driver's license, TIN, SSS or Passport.)
14. Raffle prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior approval from DTI
15. Employees & staff of PDI, their ad agency & their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity & affinity are disqualified from joining the promo

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We've got a **Great Franchise Opportunity**.

If you qualify in terms of talent, skills, and capital, we have the best opportunity in business franchising today. Take a look at our franchisees that are enjoying themselves in a dynamic, growth driven industry, fueled with even greater future potential.

"With the variety of great products The Pet Pantry offers, coupled with its unique sales and marketing approach, you have the opportunity for significant business growth and achievement at your fingertips."

-Edward Estacion, 24
The Pet Pantry Makati
Franchisee

"My sales has been growing ever since I started my business 3 months ago and there is still a huge market out there for me to tap. Plus I've got the freedom I need to do what I want. I call my shots. It's a great business."

-Ojay Briones, 26
The Pet Pantry Marikina
Franchisee

Success. It's what we all want, but what does it mean? To our franchise owners, it means: We are the quality leader in our rapidly growing industry. Our dog food delivery business is the affordable route to success. It offers you low investment and high potential rewards with almost no fixed overhead. You can hit the ground running and start building your own business rapidly.

Our concept is simple and practical: "Helping our franchisees **get** and **keep** more customers and helping customers own healthy pets and save money every day."

At The Pet Pantry we have spent 8 years evolving a finely honed system of training, tools and support. This gives our franchisees an incredible competitive edge.

Unlike other business phenomena we've seen come and go over the past decade, one seems certain to stick: **Homebased businesses**. People like to work from home because they don't have to sacrifice family, productivity or profits. And more franchises are offering franchisees the ability to run a business from the comfort of their own homes.

Hard to Beat Ownership Rewards:

- No ongoing leases/ rentals
- No royalties
- High potential with unlimited client prospects
- Grow your own business through repeat clients
- Low overhead – Homebased business
- Ready customer leads when you start*
- Low start up capital of 350K
- Protected Territories

*For Metro Manila franchisees. Other areas will be discussed during meeting.

Few territories left: A05 Manila. A08 Caloocan. A09 Muntinlupa. A11 Las Pinas. A14 Valenzuela. A15 Malabon. A16 Pasay City. B17 Cebu. C18 Davao. E20 Pampanga. F21 Bulacan. G22 Laguna. H23 Cavite. Other Provincial areas are still available.

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GHD
MANAGEMENT
ENGINEERING
ENVIRONMENT

SENIOR AND GRADUATE DESIGN ENGINEERS

CAD MANAGER

GHD is an International consultancy providing leadership in management, engineering and environmental services with a commitment to sustainable development. The company is seeking applications for the following positions in our Manila office:

Senior Water Engineer

- Registered Civil Engineer with minimum 10 years water design experience.
- Excellent water design skills including experience in relevant modelling and design software packages.

Senior Civil Engineer

- Registered Civil Engineer with minimum 10 years design experience.
- Excellent design skills including experience in road design, relevant modelling and design software packages.

Senior Structural Engineer

- Registered Engineer with minimum 10 years structural design experience
- Excellent structural design skills, familiarity with Philippine structural codes and regulations and ability to work with minimum supervision

CAD Manager

- Leader with minimum 10 years experience in managing/coordinating a CAD design team
- 'Ability to establish and maintain CAD management and quality control systems.

Graduate Design Engineers

- Graduate Civil Engineers with up to 5 years experience in engineering design office
- Excellent university results.

The applicants for all positions must have strong technical abilities, be computer literate and have excellent oral and written communication skills.

Send your curriculum vitae covered by an application letter describing your suitability for the position to:

GHD Pty. Ltd., 2/F 111 Paseo de Roxas St., Legaspi Village, Makati City or e-mail us at Josephine_Lubo@ghd.com.au

www.ghd.com.au

You are young, dynamic, aspiring
...talented and can work well with a group!

We invite you to be part of our development team as:

Design Engineer

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Electronics/Electrical/Computer Engineering.
- Thorough experience with digital, analog and mixed-signal circuit, design and analysis.
- Experienced in using micro-controller(s)/microprocessor(s)/DSP's in mixed-signal circuit designs, and other components/peripherals.
- Must have hands on experience in circuit breadboarding/troubleshooting and prototyping.
- Must be knowledgeable in Assembly or C Language programming / debugging / using IDE's and emulators for embedded design applications and circuits.
- Well versed in the use of Orcad/ Cadence CAD Schematic editing/ capture tools.
- Knowledgeable with Logic Analysers/ Oscilloscopes/ Function Generators and related laboratory equipment.
- Knowledgeable with MS Windows 98/2000/XP and / MS Office applications.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 28 years old.

Electronics Research Staff

Qualifications:

- Female, Degree holder in Electronics/ Electrical/ Computer Engineering
- Must be knowledgeable with various electronics components, related specifications and technical data.
- Well versed and must have hands – on experience in the use of Orcad/Cadence CAD Schematic/PCB Library entry and editing tools.
- Proficiency in technical writing is an advantage.
- Knowledgeable with MS Windows 98/ 2000/ XP and / MS Office applications.
- Good oral and writen communication skills.
- Not over 25 years old.

Marketing Analyst

Qualifications:

- College graduate of Marketing / Economics / Statistics, or related courses.
- At least 2 years work experience in the same position or similar.
- Knowledgeable with MS Windows 98 / 2000 / XP and / MS Office applications.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Not over 25 years old.

NOTE:

1. ***Interested applicants must submit a copy of their latest resumé via e-mail to the address below.***
2. ***Indicate desired position (as written above) on the subject line for proper routing.***

e-mail: hrd@golfelec.com

The **ALBERGUS MANAGEMENT INC.** is a Foodservice Management Operator that specializes in Catering, Industrial Food Service Contracting and Food Manufacturing needs highly qualified applicants for the following positions:

CAFETERIA SUPERVISOR (Laguna Outlet)

- Graduate of HRA, HRM, Food Service Management, or any related course in a reputable school
- At least 2 years of Supervisory experience in Cafeteria operations
- Female, 26-35 years old
- Possesses strong leadership qualities/abilities
- Excellent written/oral communication skill
- Computer literate

HR/PERSONNEL MANAGER (QC OFFICE)

- Graduate of Behavioral Science or AB/BS Psychology, Industrial Relation
- At least 5 years of supervisory/managerial experience in HR preferably in Food Service Industry
- Female, not more than 35-40 years old
- Excellent in oral and written communication skills and computer literate

HR/PERSONNEL ASSISTANT (QC OFFICE)

- Graduate of Behavioral Science or AB/BS Psychology
- At least a year experience in HR; Female, between 25-28 years old
- Above average in oral and written communication skills
- Knowledgeable in office procedures

Interested applicants may also mail or submit their resumé at:

ALBERGUS MANAGEMENT, INC.
HR/Personnel Office
16-A Capitol Hills Road, Old Balara, Diliman, Quezon City
Telephone Numbers: 931-4852; 931-4854

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper invites you to
become part of our team as

RECORDS CLERK - Credit and Collection

Qualifications:

- College graduate preferably Accounting major
- 1 year experience in similar field
- Knowledge in basic computer operations

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the maintenance of Credit and Collection files: letters, memo, Debit Memo / Credit Memo, ad contracts, copies of ad invoice and classified ads documents
- Also responsible for controlling the billing invoice released to Collectors and for the notarization of taxpayers certificate and affidavit of publication

RECORDS CLERK - Advertising

Qualifications:

- College graduate preferably with background in Marketing or Advertising
- 1 year experience in similar job

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for maintaining and recording of publication orders and contracts
- Implements all memos regarding cancellations, transfers, change of schedules and sizes

BILLING CLERK

Qualifications:

- College graduate with background in Accounting or Finance
- 1 year experience in similar field

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the preparation of advertising tearsheets and attachment of same with advertising invoices.

If you are interested, kindly mail your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

New York Call Center

✆ **Account Managers**

- Must have at least one year experience in the field of sales/ account management
- Must possess strong leadership skills
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)

✆ **Outbound Sales Agents**

- 20 to 27 years old with outgoing personality
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Basic computer knowledge
- Fresh graduates are welcome

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS WITH PICTURE TO:
armi@nytelecom.com/armi406@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 992 Dasmariñas Village,
Makati City

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- ➢ A chance to own the programs for your children at almost NO COST;

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Job Summary:

The Telephone Sales Representative makes and/or receives telephone calls on behalf of our clients. They perform according to established quality assurance standards and within guidelines set forth by Teleservices Holdings Corporation as well as the client. The Telephone Sales Representative is expected to meet and/or exceed predetermined sales goals, attend and actively participate in training, retraining and up-training programs.

Qualifications:

- University graduate with a 4-year degree course preferred, but not required
- Must have excellent English communication skills, both oral and written
- Exceptional interpersonal and marketing skills

EDUCATOR

Qualifications:

- Experience in designing and developing training materials for a customer service/sales environment
- Ability to work shift schedules to accommodate changing training needs of the company
- Must possess strong leadership skills
- All candidates must have excellent English communication skills to be able to come up with effective oral and written presentations

We offer a very competitive salary package commensurate to qualifications.

Interested applicants must apply in person and bring with them their resumé with 2x2 picture to the Human Resources Department.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper invites you to
become part of our team as

DESK EDITOR - LIFESTYLE

Qualifications:

- College graduate major in Journalism or any Social Sciences course
- Must have 3 years experience in newspaper Journalism
- With at least 1 year experience in editing and designing/layouting pages

Responsibilities:

- Coordinates news gathering activities
- Edits stories and designs the layout of newspaper pages

If you are interested, kindly mail your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

One of the leading construction companies in the country is in urgent need of the following:

- **CIVIL ENGINEERS** — Licensed Civil Engineer, computer literate, with at least 5 yrs. of extensive actual work experience in land/site development as well as in the construction of roads, bridges, high rise buildings, water works system and industrial plants.
- **MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS** — Licensed Mechanical or Electrical, computer literate, with at least 3 yrs. of actual work experience in Electro-Mechanical works, quality control and/or fire protection.
- **OFFICE / COST ENGINEERS** — Licensed Civil Engineer, computer literate, with at least 3 yrs. of extensive actual work experience in materials control, survey, costs & estimates and bill of quantities in horizontal and/or vertical construction.
- **ACCOUNTANTS / BOOKKEEPERS** — Preferably CPA, must be computer literate, with at least 3 yrs. of actual work experience in Accounting works.
- **BUILDING SUPERINTENDENTS** — Licensed Civil Engr. with at least 10 yrs. of actual work experience in high rise building construction.
- **MATERIALS ENGINEERS** — Preferably licensed Civil Engr. with at least 3 yrs. of actual work experience in materials sampling and testing.
- **FIELD ENGINEERS** — Licensed Civil Engr. with at least 5 yrs. of actual work experience in high rise building construction, specially in structural concreting works. Preferably with knowledge in formwork system.
- **SAFETY ENGINEERS** — Licensed Civil or Mechanical Engineer, computer literate, with at least 3 yrs. of actual work experience in the construction industry.
- **PLANNING & SCHEDULING ENGINEERS** — Licensed Civil Engineer, computer literate, with at least 5 yrs. of extensive actual work experience in horizontal, specially for roads & bridges, and/ or vertical construction.
- **SURVEYORS** — BS Civil Eng'g. or Jr. Geodetic Eng'g graduate, computer literate, with at least 2 yrs. of actual work experience in surveying works.
- **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS** — Graduate of a 4-yr. business or behavioral science course, computer literate and good in oral & written communication with at least 3 yrs. of actual work experience in the construction industry.
- **WAREHOUSEMEN** — Graduate of a 4-yr. course and computer literate with at least 3 yrs. of actual work experience in the construction industry.

Interested parties are requested to immediately send their comprehensive resume, with latest 2x2 picture and photocopy of transcript of records to:

THE DIVISION MANAGER
Personnel Administration
P.O. Box 195 AAVA Commercial Center
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City

Aiming for quality at work

By Teresa Reyes Tunay
Illustrations by Rolando Reyes

BEST
Attitudes

1 High quality in one's work is most desirable. The worker who delivers consistently high-quality performance is the one who gets ahead faster and derives a longer-lasting sense of fulfillment from work. Whatever you do—whether it be baking *pan de sal* or delivering the mail—you can be a "high-class" *panadero* or *kartero* by aiming quality at work.

2 How is this achieved? First, recognize the most common enemies of quality: Lack of skill at work.

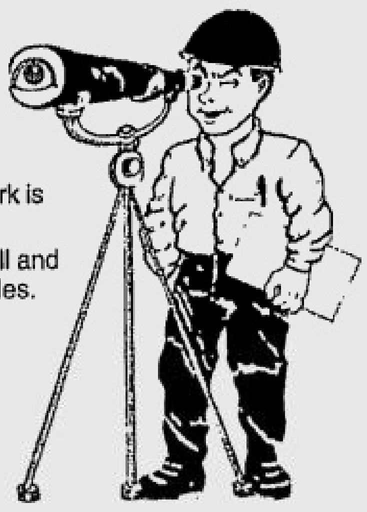
OBER TAYM ITO!!

3 Lack of concern for the job or the *"bara-bara"* mentality—*"matapos lang, ayos na."*

BAYAD MUNA
CASH ONLY

4 A materialistic attitude towards work—when all one cares about is immediate material gain, not future reputation or track record.

5 Also, biting more than one can chew, as in the case of a dressmaker who accepts more job orders than she can finish on time.



6 High-quality work is achieved via the combination of skill and sound work attitudes.

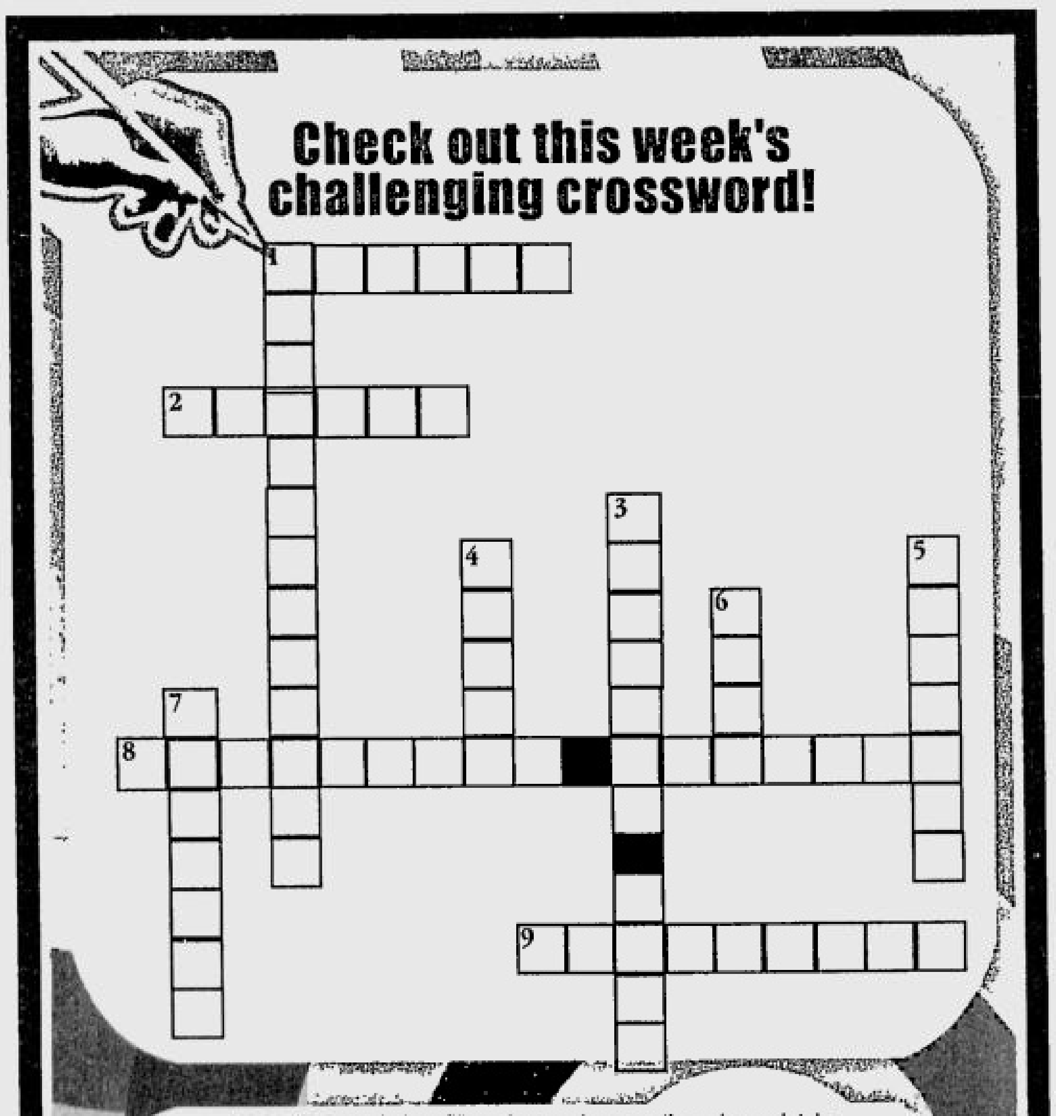
7 In order to ensure an above-average quality in our work, let us upgrade skills constantly and keep abreast of new developments to our work.

8 Let us think that each day we deliver quality work is a day invested towards a brighter future.

9 Quality work always results in happy, satisfied customers.

10 Happy and satisfied customers talk well about your work, and such talk bring in more customers to your shop. Let us remember that reputation takes time and that recognition is usually given to those who labor long and hard at delivering constantly high-quality performance. Award-winning workers are an example of the worthiness of striving for quality. Some of you think, "What about awards given to one-time 'heroes' like honest taxi cab drivers who return money found in their cabs?" Well, we must remember that honesty is also a "high-quality habit" built up through the years. One is not dishonest his whole life and then becomes honest in the face of temptation.

Check out this week's challenging crossword!



Using the clues below, fill up the puzzle correctly and completely.
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DOWN
1 GHD, provides leadership in mgmt, engineering and ___ services (see p.07)
3 Results in happy, satisfied customers (see p.08)
4 Global leader in management solutions and services (see p.05)
5 A person who is self-contained & indirect (see p.10)
6 Your stepping stone to bigger things (see p.03)
7 "Flight of the ___" by James Belasco & Ralph Stayer (see p.06)

ACROSS
1 Today is ___ Sunday
2 363 P. Casal St. ___, Mla., location of TIP Campus (see p.04)
8 World's #1 aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul company (see p. 01)
9 UNAIDS is looking for a Country ___ Advisor (see p. 02)

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Save the Children Federation, Inc.

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries world wide, implementing community development projects that help children in need. Save the Children is searching for qualified candidates for:

HEALTH/POPULATION/NUTRITION MANAGER

Reporting directly to the Deputy Country Director of the Philippines Field Office, the Health Manager will be primarily responsible for providing overall direction to the health, population and nutrition efforts of the Philippines Field Office. He/she will provide technical inputs to the Health Coordinators in existing program areas related to the implementation of programs/projects under Save the Children's Sectoral Program Initiatives Team (SPRINT). He/she shall also serve as a liaison for health initiatives between Save the Children and its partner agencies. He/she may also be requested to provide technical assistance to these partner agencies. He/she shall also be responsible for providing direction to resource generation in this sector and for coordinating efforts in pursuing funding opportunities.

Key responsibilities:
The Health/Population/Nutrition Manager shall: (1) provide technical inputs for programming and decision-making related to the health, population, nutrition sector, (2) Prepare project proposals for submission either to funding agencies or to other Save the Children offices, and develop/refine HPN strategies towards scaling up or institutionalization, (3) provide technical support for the Health Coordinators in existing program areas, (4) Coordinate with head office HPN staff and provide them with inputs/technical support for securing central grants for this sector, (4) Prepare reports to funding agencies, home office, partner organizations and the Deputy Field Office Director, (5) Document experiences in sectoral programming for publication, technical presentation to local and international audience or for circulation among special groups.

The position will be based in Metro Manila and will require periodic travel to other program areas Iloilo and Mindanao. During these trips, HPN Manager is expected to prepare detailed scopes of work, trip reports and similar documentation of activities undertaken in the field.

Requirements:
This is a senior position requiring strong leadership and management skills; Previous work experience in a similar position in an international NGO highly preferred; Bachelor's degree in health or related discipline required; Minimum of ten years program development experience. Demonstrated training and research skills. Fluency in English required. Computer literacy a must. Professional work experience in a multi-cultural work a plus.

Qualified applicants may send their resumés on or before **April 28, 2003** to : *By mail* - CODE: HPN MGR, Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. *By fax:* (632) 853-02-15. *By e-mail:* elopez@savechildren.org (please indicate code "HPN MGR" in subject line).

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ADB

Fighting Poverty in Asia and the Pacific

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

Web Systems Officer

Reporting Arrangements

The position directly reports to the Web Supervisor.

Description of Responsibilities

The position is primarily responsible for designing, developing, implementing, and maintaining the web-based systems of ADB's external web site and supervising the site's technical direction and growth.

The position is specifically responsible for:

- supervising the technical direction and growth of the internet web site to ensure application of appropriate technologies and support services;
- assisting in overseeing all aspects of technical support of ADB's external web site;
- assisting in planning, monitoring, and administering the acquisition of computer hardware and software for web site operations;
- initiating the development, testing, implementation, and evaluation of new online applications;
- supervising Internet web server operations (Windows NT2000 and Linux platforms) for supporting the ADB web site and a web hosting agreement with a major telecommunications firm;
- identifying ways to improve the usability of the web site and developing appropriate technical solutions; and
- liaising and collaborating with key departments, e.g. Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST), Central Operations Services Office (COSO), on web-related technical issues.

Selection Criteria

- suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level;
- a college degree;
- at least 5 years web experience, including internet networking and digital media; preferably at least 3 years should be within a multilateral organization or similar institution;
- ability to design and maintain a complex web site that manages over 20,000 files; has produced and managed a complex web site with database back-end support;
- ability to synthesize various disciplines, e.g. information architecture, user interface design, database development, programming, and graphic design; and
- has integrated legacy information systems into the site's workflow.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside the Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Download the application form at **http://www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp** and email as attachment to **ls-jobs@adb.org**, or send application, quoting **Ref No. EXT-SS03-034(3)-OER, by 29 April 2003** to:

Human Resources Division
Asian Development Bank
P.O. Box 789,0980 Manila Philippines
Tel: 632-4444 • Fax: 636-2550

Due to the large number of applications normally received, only shortlisted candidates will be notified. Applications submitted without quoting the job reference number or sent to an e-mail address other than stated above will not be entertained.

Asian Development Bank
www.adb.org

TUTUBAN PROPERTIES, INC.

We are a multinational company engaged in Real Estate and Development. At present, we are in need of competent people to fill in the following positions:

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- Male or Female, 22-25 years old
- Preferably a graduate of Marketing or Communication Arts
- With good interpersonal and communication skills
- Persuasive and confident
- Shall handle booking of night market slots and semi-permanent carts, preparation of Lease Agreement, etc.

HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR

- Male or Female, 26-35 years old
- Preferably with experience in similar field
- Highly trainable and keen with details
- With good interpersonal skills
- Has strong leadership qualities
- Shall handle all facets of Housekeeping in the mall

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- With broad experience in LVAC/HVAC Air-conditioning system
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- In-charge of the daily operation and maintenance of all air-conditioning units

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- Male or Female, 25 -35 years old
- Preferably a graduate of Management, Marketing or Communication Arts
- Adept in using MS Windows, Office Application, Publishing and Graphics Program
- With good oral and written communication skills
- Shall provide support activities for marketing and sales blitz and strengthen corporate image
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- Male, 25 -35 years old
- College or vocational graduate, preferably from the mechanical field
- With experience in escalator/elevator repair
- In-charge of the daily operation and maintenance of the unit

PURCHASING ASSISTANT

- Female, 22-26 years old
- Graduate of any business course
- Preferably with experience in similar field
- Shall assist in the procurement of material requests

Send over your resumé and application letter to tpi_hrd@hotmail.com or at the 2/F Administration Office, Tutuban Centermall, C.M. Recto, Manila.

URGENTLY NEEDED

A financial institution is in need of highly dynamic individuals to fill-up the following positions for its 1st Quarter expansion program for 2003.

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- Male/Female; 21-25 years old
- Accounting Graduate
- Can work under pressure with minimum supervision
- Willing to be assigned in the following areas:
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  Visayas - Roxas City / Ilo-Ilo City / Borongan

EDP PERSONNEL

- Female not more than 25 years old
- Graduate of BS Computer
- Knowledge in Billing and Collection Documentation and Analysis

PROGRAMMER

- Male not more than 30 years old
- BS Computer Science Graduate
- At least two (2) years work experience as programmer
- Knowledgeable in development of program Application using Windows & DOS based system
- Exposure in LAN set up programs & NT Server
- Willing to travel in different provinces

GENERAL QUALIFICATION:

- Honest / Hardworking / People-Oriented
- Excellent in oral and written Communication

Applicants may send their resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records to (please indicate the position applied for & the area of preference)

Box No. KA-002-03 MT
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F, Trinity Bldg.
636 TM Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila

Aedas

Aedas, an international group of architects ranked 7th largest in the world is establishing its Philippines office to service their projects in the region. The office is looking strongly motivated professionals for the following positions:

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- Strong management skills, good design and technical background.
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- Must be able to work independently.

Senior Architects

- 15 years experience in large-scale projects.
- Strong technical background and should be able to lead a technical production team.
- Strong leadership and communication skills.
- AutoCAD and Microstation literate.

Senior Architectural and Interior Designers

- At least 15 years experience in preparing conceptual architectural or interior designs.
- Strong presentation and visualization skills.
- Should be able to lead the office design group.

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- Architects or Architectural Assistants with at least 5 years experience.
- Excellent design and detail design skills essential.
- AutoCAD and Microstation literate.

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- Proficient in the latest computer visualization softwares.
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- Should have the initiative to constantly manage and improve office visualization capabilities.

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- 10 years experience in office and HR management, preferably with an architectural office.
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- Background in accounting and financial management.
- Mature, organized and hardworking and should possess strong leadership skills.

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- College graduate with formal secretarial training.
- Good written & spoken English. Basic computer skills include MS Word English, Excel, Powerpoint, Internet etc. Good communication skill.
- Mature, organized and hardworking.

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Aedas Philippines
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c/o Classified Ads Department
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Ground Floor, Atrium of Makati,
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- College graduate, major in Math

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT IN SCIENCE

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- Teaching experience is an advantage

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2nd Floor, NB Santos Building
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Quezon City 1104

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Urgently neeeds....

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1. **Maintenance Supervisor**
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   - MS Word and Excel literate
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   - 25-35 years old
   - Ref & Aircon Technology Graduate
   - W/ 5 years experience in Ref & Aircon maintenance

Send your resumé to:
The Human Resources Department
TEMPRITE ENGINEERING INC.
63 Samonte St., Barangay Holy Spirit
Diliman, Q.C. 1127

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NATIONAL CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH
Nuevo de Febrero St.
City of Mandaluyong

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HRM Aide	4	OSEC-DOHB-HRMA-28-1998 OSEC-DOHB-HRMA-30-1998 OSEC-DOHB-HRMA-32-1998

(Sgd.) BERNARDINO A. VICENTE, MD, FRRA, MHA, CESO IV
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High School / College Level
Self-Motivated and Hard working
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Kitchen Helper

COME JOIN OUR TEAM!!!

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- College graduate (Pharmacist will be an advantage)
- With pleasing personality and good oral & written communication skills
- Hard working, goal oriented and self-motivated
- Must have experience in handling key and tertiary accounts

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- Female must not be more than 35 yrs. old
- With pleasing personality
- College graduate from a reputable school (B.S. Accountancy preferred)
- Fresh graduates are welcome. (Bookkeeping exp. will be an advantage)

SALES PROMO/MERCHANDISER

- Male/Female must not be more than 30 yrs. old
- At least high school graduate
- At least 5'2 with pleasing personality

Please submit your resumé at

Unit 502 Raffles Corporate Center
Emerald Avenue Ortigas Center
Pasig City 1600 or call
Ms. Pinky Manulid or Olive de Guzman
at 910-1358 to 57 or 914-2115

Needs

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MASSEUSE
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For **Holistic Circle**
Tel. No. **914-4376/ 634-7271**

A leading manufacturing company with nationwide distribution network is in need of a

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Primary Responsibilities:

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- ◆ Oversees the activities of the company's sales force and distributors
- ◆ Oversees the merchandising & sales promotions activities of the company and
- ◆ Develop pricing for existing and new products in collaboration with the General Manager

Qualification Standard:

- ◆ Marketing or Business Graduate
- ◆ With 3 to 5 years managerial experience in sales/marketing of consumer products
- ◆ Male not over 45 years old
- ◆ Excellent communication skills (oral & written) in English
- ◆ Able to speak Chinese (Fookien) will be an advantage
- ◆ With strong inter-personal skills

Previous applicant need not apply

Please send your latest resumé with 2x2 picture to:

Personnel Department
P.O. Box 2040 Manila

International Rectifier (IR), a leading power management US based company is in search of a top caliber individual who will fill-up the position of a Quality Assurance Manager whose primary function is to design and manage the implementation a Quality System function to ensure strict compliance to IR's end customer requirements. Due to the nature of the business, the person will be required to travel domestic and international to resolve issues, conduct periodic audits and trainings to ensure the implementation of customer requirements.

Job Duties/Responsibilities

- Implementation of Process flow, FMEA and Control Plan requirements
- Manage the Specification System
- Support qualification of new Assy/Test Subcontractors
- Provide disposition on materials returned due to Quality issues
- Timely submission of 8D corrective action reports
- Implement Statistical Reliability Sampling tests

Qualifications

- Minimum ten (10) years relevant working experience in the Semiconductor Industry with 5 years in a managerial position.
- Hands-on experience in key Assy/Test processes (Die Bond, Wirebond, Mold, DTFS, Test, TnR), preferably in the Power Semiconductor field.
- Highly knowledgeable on international Quality Systems standards such as ISO9000, ISO14001, QS9000 and ISO/TS16949.
- Experience in Failure Analysis and Reliability screening tests.
- A practitioner of Problem Solving tools such as 8D Methodology, Potential Problem Analysis, Fault Tree Analysis, Failure Mode and Effects Analysis and Control Plans, OCAPS, Total Control Methodology and Total Quality Management.
- A user of Statistical Analysis tools such as JMP, Design Ease, Stats, etc.
- Knowledgeable in the use of computer softwares such as MS Office would be a plus factor.
- Excellent track record in his/her current employer.
- Strategist, highly motivated, dynamic, flexible, self-directed and independent.

Please e-mail comprehensive resumé with photo to: ygr@pacific.net.ph

JOBMarket
e-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.
Sunday PEOPLE at WORK
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Personality differences build teams

By Tony Alessandra, Ph.D.

"ROUND up the usual suspects," the gendarme ordered in the famous line from the movie "Casablanca." And frequently that's how executives think when they create teams, committees or task forces. The boss says or thinks something like: "Let's appoint anyone who might know something about this issue." Or even more likely: "Grab anybody who's got a stake in this thing."

Organizations, of course, love such groups because when they work, they can improve coordination, help employees feel more involved, and maybe even spur innovation. But when they flop—or, more commonly, just lapse into mediocrity—they can drain an organization of its vitality and leave a legacy of posturing, power struggles, and misunderstandings.

SOCIALIZER

Designing a group

We naively assume any group can automatically be a team. But, actually, one of the biggest single reasons that teams misfire is that personality differences are ignored. In short, who's selected for the team will very likely affect the outcome. So, for best results, we can't just order an off-the-rack model—we've got to design one that'll best do the job.

If, when you create a team, you employ knowledge of the four personality types, or behavioral styles *(see sidebar)*, you greatly improve its chances for success. You need to take into account that there are natural allies and antagonists among the styles and also that each style functions best at a different phase in the life cycle of a team.

For example, Socializers often see Thinkers as overly analytical fuss-budgets. Directors might sooner die than turn into dull plodders like the Relaters. Thinkers, while often drawn to Relaters, have difficulty understanding the Socializer's lack of focus or the Director's impatience. And Relaters only wish everyone was as amiable as they.

THINKER

So while the potential for conflict is always there, it needn't become the reality. In creating a team, think about who you are putting on it and monitor how they function during the group's evolution. That way you'll not only make the best possible use of the strengths of each team member, you can help create a whole that's much larger than the sum of the parts.

STEPH BRAVO
RELATER

Natural cycle of groups

Work groups typically follow a cycle, just like the organizations which spawn them. They face predictable obstacles, rise to the occasion or fail, and as a result, either evolve or deteriorate. At every stage in that cycle, each of the various behavioral styles can be a help or a hindrance.

Phase one: finding focus

Any new group at first gropes to find its focus. Members of the group ask, or at least think: Is this going to be worth the effort? Is this going to be a useful team that can get things done? Or is it just another group holdihg yet more meetings aimed at producing another report that nobody reads?

In addition, each member at this point is seeking to define his or her role. They silently ask: "Do I fit in here, or am I an outsider?" "Am I going to be an important member of this group with real input, or am I just here for appearances?" "Is this going to waste my time?"

Thinkers and Directors can be especially helpful during this first phase. They are both skilled at getting to the heart of matters, though in different ways.

If the challenges the group faces are intellectually complex, the Thinker will be in his element. Because they're so good at reasoned analysis on tasks, Thinkers they can help clarify the mission and give the team focus.

DIRECTOR

Similarly, if the main hurdle the group faces is more of a conflict—say, a history of discord among members and/or a split over its goals—a Director likely will shine. In fact, the group may be yearning for just a strong leader who can tell the warring members to quit butting heads and either commit, or leave. That's a situation ready-made for the Director.

In either case, the Thinker or Director may be able to get the group to psychologically buy into the idea of moving forward together, to convince the team that there's a "plan" and progress will be possible.

Phase Two: facing the realities

While a tough-minded Thinker or Director may get the group going, this stormy second stage often cries out for the buoyant optimism of the Socializers. Their friendly, informal brand of leadership can send out a strong, clear signal that this group can work together and make things better for everybody.

A people-oriented approach is needed at this stage because not just the team's internal dynamics but also external issues must be addressed here. It's at this point that reality often intrudes. The group may begin to see how difficult its task really is, how little time and resources are available, and how members may need to settle for a half a loaf rather than a stunning breakthrough.

All these factors can breed frustration, confusion, and disillusionment. This is when it'll be decided if the group tackles the real issues in

PERSONALITY/O6

Behavioral Styles

MANY psychologists use a personality assessment tool that is based on a matrix of four behavioral styles classified as Relater, Thinker, Director and Socializer. These styles have their own set of characteristics that define their particular behavior. A general description of each style is as follows:

The **Relater** is a person who is open and indirect. He is usually casual and conforming in appearance and takes a slow and easy pace. His priority is maintaining relationships. He fears confrontation and seeks attention.

The **Thinker** is a person who is self-contained and indirect. He is formal and conservative in appearance and takes a slow and systematic pace. His priority is the task, particularly the process. He fears embarrassment and seeks accuracy.

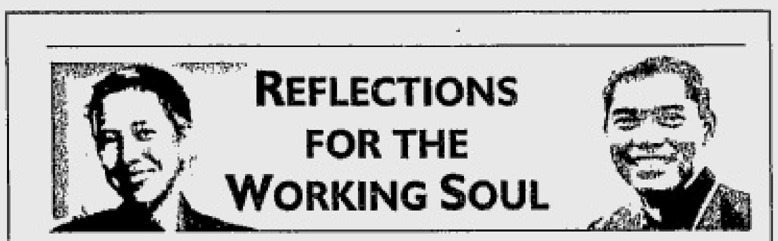
The **Director** is a person who is self-contained and direct. He is businesslike and functional in appearance and takes a fast and decisive pace. His priority is the task, particularly the results. He fears loss of control and seeks productivity.

The **Socializer** is a person who is open and direct. He is fashionable and stylish in appearance and takes a fast and spontaneous pace. His priority is relationships. He fears loss of prestige and seeks recognition.

*(Source:*www.nsba.org/sbot/toolkit/BehavSty.html*)*

What's inside

Working Wounded 06
Best Attitudes.. 08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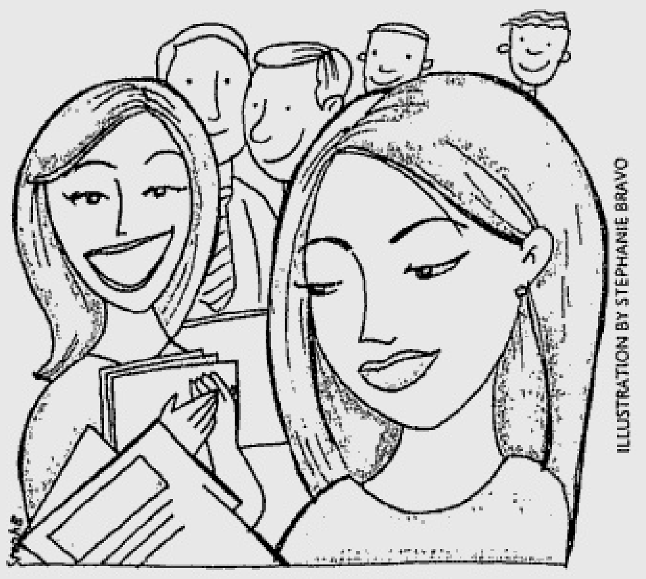


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

Gospel John 20:1-9

"...Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning...and saw the stone removed...and went to Simon. Peter and to the other disciple ... and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb..."

Easter joy for us all

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

IT is interesting to note that Mary Magdalene, a woman, and known in her time as a practitioner of the "oldest profession" in the world, is the first human being to have witnessed the greatest event in history, the resurrection of Jesus. Her work, which gave her a reputation a decent person would not aspire to have, did not hinder her from enjoying such great privilege. It was when she believed in Jesus and showed her great love for Him by repenting of her sins and renewing her life, that she gained the pardon, peace and the great joy which the Risen Lord granted her.

Perhaps it would be as interesting to note, that we, too, can experience the great joy in the Lord's resurrection! Whatever our work or profession, when we see it as our way of relating intimately with God and not just as our means of livelihood, we are given the grace to understand that in the eyes of God, a person is valued not by the kind of occupation or profession he practices. In God's eyes, no one is considered more important than another because of the kind of work he does, the position he occupies in the workplace, his annual salary and other status symbols. Rather, God sees the heart of the individual person and values the love with which this person performs his tasks and serves his fellow men.

When we focus more on the God of our work rather than the work we do for God, try to be aware of His loving presence in us and love Him intensely, we will feel safe and secure in this passing world. And the joy of Easter will be ours all the days of our life!

(Email the author at mfvg@skyinet.net*)*

This tomb isn't empty

By Teresa R. Tunay

THERE'S a nasty joke circulating among male chauvinists that Jesus had chosen a woman, Mary Magdalene, to be the first to witness His rising from the dead because being supposedly born a gossip—monger, a woman would spread the word around a hundred times faster than a man could. That may be said in jest but it is also one of the many unsavory things said of women by their male colleagues at work.

While it is true that women as a rule tend to indulge in rumor-mongering more than men, it is by no means the only "contribution" women can make in the workplace. The feminine touch in offices, factories, anywhere people work, definitely makes the workplace more humane, alive, spirit-filled. Imagine a workplace filled with a hundred men; put in a handful of women and see how the place blooms—it's like having a dozen roses in one corner of a vulcanizing shop.

Particularly in the Philippines where the president is a woman, women have contributed immensely to the workforce. And yet, in so many workplaces, we still find women getting less pay for equal work, being bypassed at promotions, or being shortchanged one way or another. A deeper study of scriptures will reveal that Jesus trusted women and treated them with respect, an attitude that crowned the female of the species at the moment of His resurrection.

Show me a workplace that treats its women shabbily and I'll show you Jesus' tomb with Jesus still in it.

(Email the author at avemaria@csi.com.ph*)*

MARKETING BRAND 'YOU'

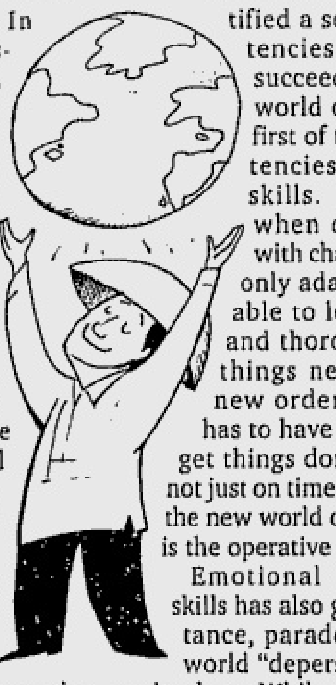
Collective renewal is needed to develop world-class Pinoys

By Regina Galang Reyes

HOPEFULLY, Holy Week was a time for us to "examine our consciences" and find out how we may improve our spirituality and character so that on Easter Sunday, we can commit to a renewal of our lives. On a collective basis, we can also use the same process to move further towards becoming world-class Pinoys. However, in this process, we need global benchmarks on what it takes to succeed in the global market. These benchmarks are the required competencies (knowledge, skills, attitudes, habits and values) that are needed in the new global economy.

According to Ernie Cecilia, president of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, the global economy is characterized by:

- Wider use of technology
- Flatter organizational structures, i.e., lesser organizational layers of people, bosses have wider span of control or more people report to one boss
- Prevalent use of team structures rather than permanent groups—The traditional "boxes" in your organizational chart anchored by reporting lines up have been replaced by floating amoeba-like "cells" of people or teams that report to any and all who need to know about the project.
- Faster-paced timelines—The strategic in strategic planning process has shorted to a five-year time frame. In fact, your business assumptions can turn turtle in a span of one year. Scenario planning is the key to planning in a fast-lane world.
- Growing use of the information highway which includes Intranets and the Internet—Virtual offices have mushroomed doing away with the physical limits of a real office and aggravations of actual highway traffic.
- More customer-driven products and services to address the needs of customers who are becoming more demanding and discriminating. Courses now abound that teach how to serve "crabby customers" and even "customers from hell."
- Global standards, if not global markets. Excellence and world-class are now synonymous.
- Rapid and numerous changes—The term "rapidly-changing" world has become a cliche.



In this situation, he identified a set of competencies needed to succeed in the new world of work. The first of these competencies is learning skills. Definitely, when one is faced with change, you can only adapt if you are able to learn quickly and thoroughly those things needed in the new order. Then, one has to have the ability to get things done right, and not just on time, but faster. In the new world of work, "fast" is the operative word.

Emotional intelligence skills has also gained importance, paradoxically, in a world "depersonalized" by technology. While email and the Internet have decreased face-to-face transactions, it has widened the scope of human relations on a global basis making social skills a necessity.

One also needs to have the ability to see the forest and the trees. Successful executives have found out that the higher one goes up the corporate tower, the more vital it is not only to have vision but to have micro-vision. Nothing beats a hands-on executive or one who manages by walking around or pacing the shop floor.

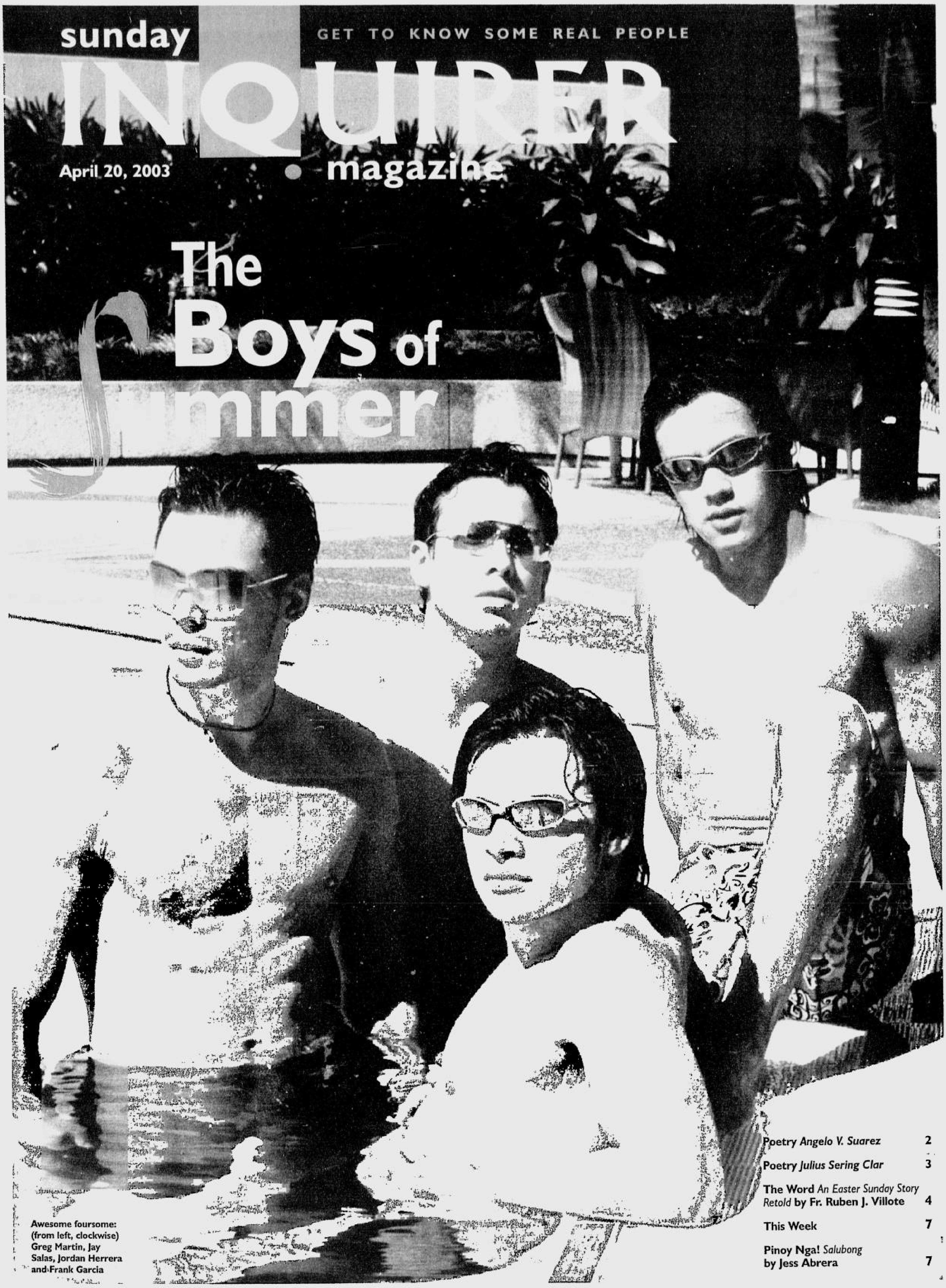
Undoubtedly, flexibility, adaptability and ability to thrive on change are competencies that are needed for survival. As the chameleon changes its skin to blend with the environment, so must the career person to the workplace while maintaining the integrity of his inner self.

As we examine our competencies as a Filipino workforce, we can identify our areas of improvement or our training needs. Only then can we embark on a program of renewal to take our rightful place in the global economy.

(Email feedback to rreyes@inquirer.com.ph. *For advice on job hunting and career tips, tune in to "People at Work sa DZRH" every Wednesday at 666 AM on your radio dial with the author, Reggie Reyes, former DOLE secretary Atty. Benny Laguesma and veteran broadcasters Ruth Abao Espinosa and Andy Verde.)*

sunday
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
April 20, 2003
magazine

The Boys of Summer



Awesome foursome: (from left, clockwise) Greg Martin, Jay Salas, Jordan Herrera and Frank Garcia

By Tinna S. Bonifacio
Photographs by Mike Alquinto

SUBJECT No. 1: Greg Martin is 22 years old, born on December 12, 1980 under the sign of Sagittarius. He's 6'1", weighs 185 pounds and prefers girls with the following: "a J-Lo-type body, an Angelina Jolie-type face and a Bjork-type personality."

SUBJECT No. 2: The most popular member of the group after having appeared in the movies, 19-year-old Jordan Herrera's *probinsyano* charm endears him to a lot of people. He likes his girls the same way. "I prefer simple girls and typical Filipinas who don't wear make-up."

SUBJECT No. 3: A familiar face to primetime TV viewers because of his role on the soap "Bituin," where he played the boyfriend of Desiree del Valle's character Bernadette Gaston, Frank Garcia is forthright about his likes and dislikes, especially in girls. "I don't like girls who smoke," he says.

SUBJECT No. 4: Six-foot-tall Jay Salas is the most frank and direct of the four. The 21-year-old commercial model (you might have seen him in a KFC ad) likes girls with a good sense of humor. He's into martial arts, boxing, soccer and once spun records at Wherelse disco.

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> *After losing one member, changing their name and leaving their former home network, the erstwhile Power Boys are on their own. Do they have what it takes to keep going as heartthrobs and—gasp—recording stars?*

Photographed at poolside at the New World Renaissance Hotel, Makati City

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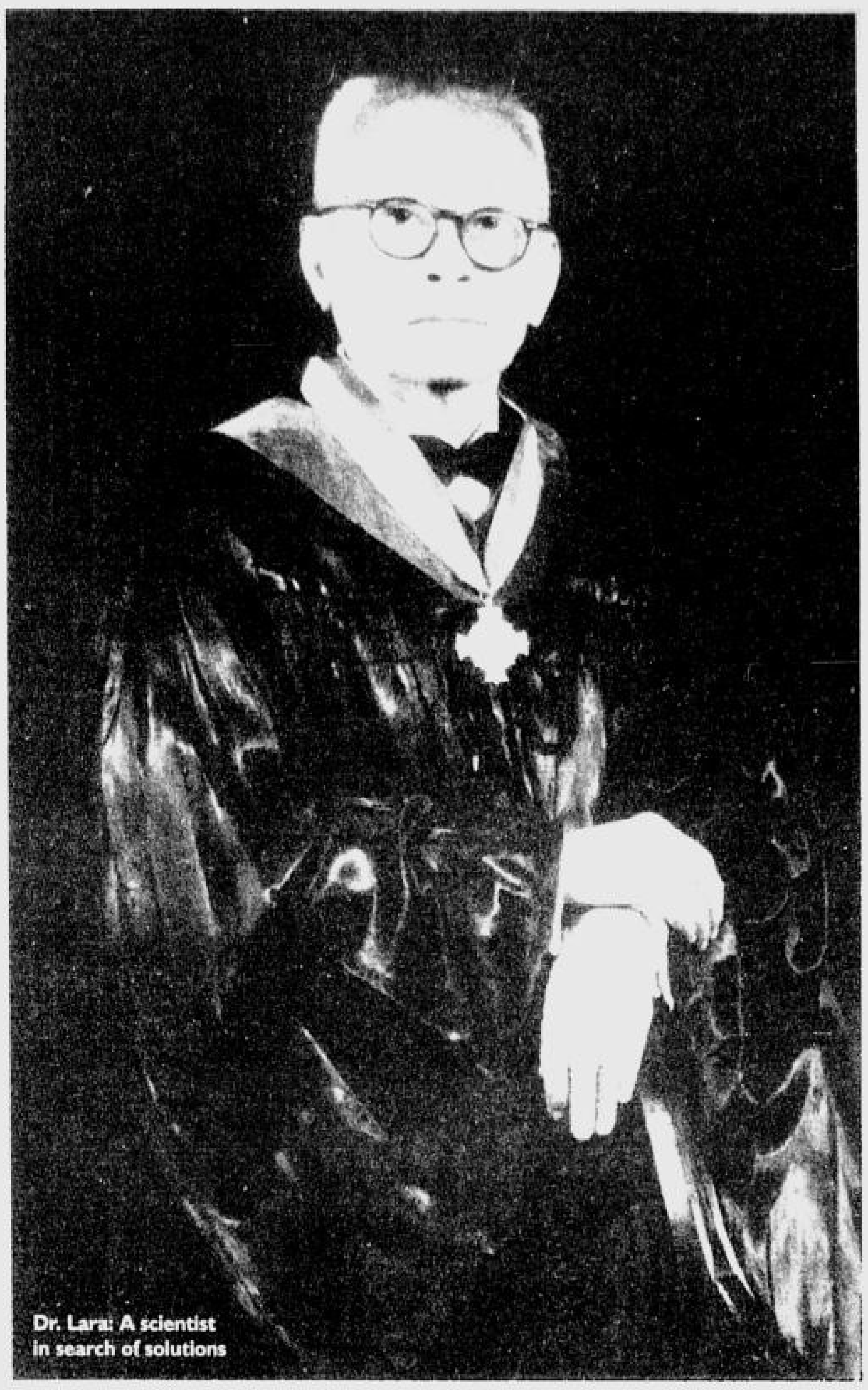
Trailblazers

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

A Lifetime Among Lepers

Dr. Casimiro B. Lara spent 60 years of his life among leprosy patients in Culion, Palawan, and came up with research on the evolution of the disease that is yet unequalled in the world

From the book, "Culion Island: A Leper Colony's 100-Year Journey Toward Healing"



Dr. Lara: A scientist in search of solutions

THE island beckoned. The call was difficult to resist. One day in 1922, Gov. Gen. Leonard Wood gathered all the resident physicians of the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) and spoke to them about the need for pioneer leprosy work in faraway Culion in Palawan. The island was then on its 16th year as a leper colony and patients from all over the Philippines continued to arrive in large numbers.

In the international medical scene, Culion was fast becoming a byword. It was, at one time, the largest leper colony in the world. It was expected to contribute significantly to medical science by becoming a center of research, if not a showcase for leprosy control. But more important was the need for more medical personnel.

Wood was asking for volunteers.

A 26-year-old resident physician at PGH said yes to the challenge. For Dr. Casimiro B. Lara, a medical graduate of the University of the Philippines (UP) and class valedictorian, the call meant giving up a bright future and a comfortable life in Manila.

The young bachelor sailed away in 1922. From then on, Culion would become the locus of his life's work and his home until the end of his life. Leprosy patients would become the object of his passion, the defining backdrop of his calling as a doctor.

When Lara arrived in Culion, he was immediately appointed supervising physician. After two years, he was promoted to chief physician, a post he held until 1947. He became the Chief of the Colony after that.

It was almost impossible, Lara said, for any person, no matter how great his endowments, to render full satisfaction as Chief. He added that "the fact that his office require(d) him to act the part of a benevolent autocrat over a community of people suffering both physically and mentally from the life-long ravages and stigma of leprosy (did) not render the task easier."

That particular paper, one of the many Lara had written on leprosy and Culion, gave a vast overview of Culion's role at that time and why, despite all difficulties, a fairly well-ordered administration of the colony had been possible during most of the past 26 years under Filipino stewardship. The island, Lara pointed out, offered "the lepers a nearly ideal mental and social environment, besides a great variety of opportunities for profitable employment and recreation."

The doctor strongly defended the role of Culion when the abolition of the Segregation Law (which isolated patients) was being considered.

Dr. Casimiro B. Lara was born on March 4, 1896 in Magsingal, Ilocos Sur. He was tutored in Spanish, Latin and Religion at a very young age and finished his elementary and high school studies in Ilocos. He left for Manila to take up medicine at UP where he finished at the top of his class in 1919.

Lara left Culion in 1924 for a two-year post-graduate course in Experimental Medicine at the University of Minnesota. He also taught at the prestigious Mayo Clinic there. As a fellow of the Mayo Foundation, he wrote several papers on pharmacology that were related to leprosy and the chaulmoogra treatment.

While in the US, Lara married Josefina Runez, a nurse, also of UP Class 1919, whom he had earlier met at the UP-PGH. Their eldest son Edward, who was born there, was named after one of the Mayo brothers.

Lara came back to Culion with his family in 1927. The three younger Lara children—Evelyn, Irene and Juan—were all born on the island. For the Lara children who all grew up there, Culion was home, a special island unlike any other.

From 1947 until his retirement in 1962, Lara was the chief of the Culion Leper Colony (and chief physician as well), a post that gave him full authority over the entire island.

Lara wryly described his multi-faceted role thus: "Besides the unusual but necessary provision that the Chief of the Colony is also Ex-Officio Justice of the Peace, he must directly or indirectly concern himself with the sanitation and the general and medical care of the inmates, exercise police authority, serve as arbitrator, act as a sort of city manager, a rural director, a general-economy planner and a social-uplift promoter.

"He must be energetic and possessed of a versatile faculty and, withal, be able to enlist the aid of an adequate staff of capable and local assistants. But with a discerning mind and paternal heart, he must feel it his special mission to labor in the service of lepers."

He was all that. Many remember Lara as a solitary figure in a white, crisply starched medical suit whose presence lent an air of seriousness to the work at hand. His devotion to his medical duties was beyond compare, and he went about doing his research work relentlessly like his own life depended on it.

Somewhere among the countless crippled and disfigured, the forsaken and forlorn who lived on the island, somewhere hidden in their bodies and in the way they reacted to certain drugs and living conditions, Lara hoped to find answers to his questions:

Is there intrauterine transmission of leprosy? Is there such a thing as age-susceptibility range? Is prophylactic immunization possible? Is there such a thing as true spontaneous recovery and how does this happen?

Lara was both an internist and a leprologist. He was not just a physician; he was a scientist in search of solutions. Culion Island was his laboratory. He was also an efficient administrator. As a doctor, he studied and observed a lot, read a lot and wrote a lot. The fruits of his research found expression in almost a hundred scientific papers he had written for various symposia and medical journals here and abroad, from the 1920s to the 1960s. Many of these were published in the Journal of Philippine Islands Medical Association and the Philippine Journal of Leprosy.

Lara focused a lot on the young children of leprous parents. Many of them had been separated at birth from their parents and were being cared for by the nuns at the nursery, while the older ones were back in the custody of their sick parents. Lara examined them regularly, conscientiously, meticulously, putting them, as it were, under the microscope. He looked into every fold of the skin, every orifice, examining every lesion and outbreak.

Lara often had candies in his pocket for these children. He also had their photographs taken as infants and as they grew up. These photographs, with notes written at the back, are now kept in the museum archives.

The revolving podium he used still stands at the Culion Museum. Countless children of leprous parents had stood on it to be examined. "Each one of us would stand naked," recalled a woman in her 50s whose parents were patients. "The podium would revolve and Dr. Lara would look closely at our skin. He would make us close our eyes, prick us slightly with a needle and make us count the pricks." A missed count could mean the pricked area did not have sensation, a sign of the onset of leprosy.

Those were not routine examinations. Lara was on to something. Says a write-up on Lara (who was nominated for the Ramon Magsaysay Awards): "His lifetime research on the Evolution of Leprosy from Childhood to Adulthood is a very unique important research that has never been equaled by any one throughout the world." This research spanned more than 40 years and went on long after he had retired and was no longer receiving financial compensation. Most of the papers he had written for medical journals were on childhood leprosy. The multi-drug therapy (MDT), the breakthrough discovery in leprosy cure, had yet to be.

Aside from being Culion's Chief, Lara held other positions, among them, as member of the Leprosy Advisory Committee to the Governor General, the Philippine Leprosy Commission and the National Research Council. He served in the Leprosy Advisory Panel of the World Health Organization.

In 1948, the Cuban government conferred on Lara the Order de Merita Dr. Carlos Finlay, Grado Official. In 1968 he

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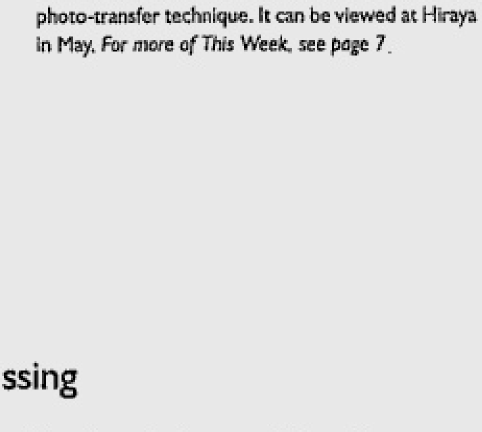

BEPPU PRIZEWINNER Mario de Rivera's "Nuestra Eden Perdido" recently won in the Beppu Asia Contemporary Art Exhibition held in Japan. The piece is a large triptych executed in mixed media featuring De Rivera's signature photo-transfer technique. It can be viewed at Hiraya Gallery in May. *For more of This Week, see page 7.*

Benches Missing

Item: 25 newly installed benches are stolen from the recently restored promenade along Roxas Boulevard in September of 2002.

How bizarre for benches to disappear just like that-
all twenty-five of them, according to a witness,
stuck in a truck like they were nothing A plate
number is disclosed and next of course comes
the hunt for the darned pick-up Darned cunt

makes the police proceed to Pampanga
then Nueva Ecija The truck is traced to Talavera
where the owner's relatives claim it has been sold
six years prior to the theft What else is left
in the world that is yet to be stolen A year ago

it was Bonifacio's leg reported missing
from his own shrine Every week a sewer lid
disappears someplace Each night barangay
tanods fail to trail that bastard who keeps scraping
emblems off the hoods of cars Even the chocolate hills

in Bohol have started vanishing one by one long ago
into thin air Look at that guy No hair See No hands
He drives his car to a corner where it promptly
disappears Soon the guards with the funny hats
by Rizal's monument disappear In a while

Mount Mayon's perfectly curved shape disappears
Coconut trees vanish from scenic Pinoy postcards
Krip Yuson's hair-tail's been cut off Ophelia's
make-up is gone Manuel Legarda has no guitar
Oh a sitar with no strings! Alas who sings

for the Cradle now Barbie Almalbis is gone
KC Montero is gone from MTV (But who cares)
See See No more fake Nikes at Greenhills
Shopping Center No more pirated CD's
After 25 benches who knows what else can disappear

in a night Hell Whole cities might disappear
Entire municipalities Next thing we know Luzon
has disappeared The rest of the country
Even poverty disappears War Famine Violence
in video games Whole continents dissolve into mist

In the void sleeps one of the disappeared
and dreams of God wearing shades and a trench coat,
roaming strolling around the aisles of the grocery
of space till He eyes the sun slips it into His pocket
looking around as if shoplifting an orange

Angelo V. Suarez

Seen On TV

By Marge C. Enriquez

Lorna Lives It Up

PATRICK UY

Younger stars may be getting more attention these days, but Lorna T has no cause to complain. The years have been kind to the multi-awarded actress who has a new soap, several thriving businessess, and a close-knit family that others in showbiz can only envy

Styling: Ramon Bilbao
Clothes: Escada
Jewelry: Cartier
Makeup: Maris delos Reyes for Lancome
Hair: Rocky Gimenez for Cocoy Salon

"THERE'S dignity in soap!" declares Lorna Tolentino. The star of ABS-CBN's top-rating melodrama series, "Kay Tagal Kang Hinintay," underscores that it's not a sudsy affair and that a lot of hard work is involved in making it.

While other soaps do 70 sequences, "Kay Tagal" does 115. "Hindi kami nagcha-chacha ng mga sequences namin. We make a career out of every scene in all levels," she adds. (The cast and crew don't take it easy on the set). They translate the script into the most efficient and focused way possible that eventually sees its own rewards.

One of those rewards is being seen as more accessible to the fans, says the soap star. The intimacy of television has made Lorna Tolentino's characters—Lorrea, Lorinda and Red Butterfly—part of the household. When Lorna goes out, fans, especially children, call out, "Mama Red!"

Not that making a soap opera is more lucrative than moviemaking, she sighs but adds: "It's a challenge for me to do soap." Acting for television is more expansive than for the movies and the emotions always have to build up so that the audience is left in anticipation and they'd stay tuned to the next scene and next day's episode.

Aside from acting in a different medium, Lorna is also challenged by her role as a burn victim. Initially she wore prosthetics but could only endure this for five hours after which she becomes cranky. As a compromise, she wears a diaper and a half mask over her face. To her, it is more important to freely express herself in a full range of spontaneous expressions.

"Friends have been waiting for the time when my face would be restored in the series. I tell them, 'Patience is a virtue. Emotional level first, before beauty,'" she says.

Indeed, Lorna practices what she preaches. In the fickle world of showbiz, the actress has earned respect from her peers because of her capacity for hard work. It helps too that she is talented.

It is a talent honed by practice that dates back to those family reunions in her childhood when she would act while cousins Zsa Zsa Padilla sang and Amy Perez danced and played host. The movies beckoned at an early age, but her transition from child star to adult roles was difficult. During her adolescence, Lorna became the family breadwinner and like other young actresses in the late '70s, had to do cheesecake roles to get noticed. She resented such roles and became uncooperative. When her peers vilified her for such unprofessional conduct, she learned to be more cautious.

Her luck changed when she started working with some of the country's best directors who honed her acting. Among her mentors were the late Ishmael Bernal who coached her in oral interpretation and Lino Brocka who taught her to shed tears on cue. In 1982, she got her first acting nomination in the role of a rebellious woman in Marilou Abaya's "Moral." Although she lost to Nora Aunor in the classic "Himala," Lorna finally won respect from the industry when she started winning acting awards.

Although most of her award-winning movies have heart-tugging titles such as "Maging Akin Ka Lamang," "Yakapin Mo ang Umaga," "Hanggang Kailan Kita Minahal," "Narito ang Puso Ko," "Sugatang Puso," "Kung Ako'y Iiwan Mo," "Ipagpatawad Mo," and "Nakagapos na Puso," she has been known to practise emotional restraint in her acting.

A diligent actress, she continually strives to perfect her craft, taking up acting courses and workshops. "You should know all the aspects of your craft," she says. "You may have the talent, but you don't know how to explore it. There's a need for that."

After doing television for a year, the cast and crew have become family to her. But such closeness on the set has not stopped her from studying her options for the next season. Movies still beckon yet getting audience approval is tough. Her last film "Magnifico " bombed at the box office despite rave reviews from the critics. "I'm so proud of that movie. It imparts many Filipino values such as family unity, purity, selflessness and finding the child in you," she says. The spiritual upliftment she got from being involved in "Magnifico" made up for her disappointment at not being part of the movie "Moral 2002."

Lorna reveals that a miscommunication between the producer, her manager and herself over the movie resulted in an entirely new cast being hired to play the original characters.

"I cried," she admits. "But then if it's not meant for you, then it's not meant to be."

Fortunately for the actress, her real-life roles as wife and mother enable her to transcend the ego-driven nature of show business.

It was literally love at first sight for actor Rudy Fernandez when he saw the then seven-year-old Lorna Tolentino at LVN Studios. He told Lorna's aunt to take care of the girl because he was going to marry her someday. Romance blossomed when they started making movies together. Although Rudy left actress Alma Moreno for Lorna, the two women have long forgotten that painful transition. Alma started feeling comfortable with Lorna when the latter won the affection of Mark Anthony, her son with Rudy.

Married for 20 years now, Lorna has learned when to yield and when to assert herself, when to be candid and when to be reflective. Her relationship with Rudy embodies the adage "Real love need not be expressed; it's already understood," she says. They can anticipate each other's needs but, she adds, she still finds something new to discover about her husband.

One of these discoveries was Rudy's desire to enter politics. "I didn't know that he would take it seriously." Although she did not favor his candidacy, she dutifully campaigned for her husband when he ran for Quezon City mayor in 2001. Lorna was more distraught about the election results than her husband. "*Ako tarantang-taranta. Siya natutulog lang.* Okay *lang sa kanya*." (I was frantic, but he took it well).

Today the couple's main concern is doing projects that they both enjoy. At this stage in their marriage, Lorna no longer allows herself to be bothered about rumors linking her husband with his leading ladies.

"I make a joke about it or I drop a line when I'm annoyed." She avoids sounding like a termagant as this might lead to a tiff. She jokes, "I'm friendly with his girlfriends from the past and the present."

"*Pero wala nang* future (no more future girlfriends though)," her husband shoots back.

Their future, Lorna adds, belongs to their sons Ralph, 19, and Renz, 17, whose images are stored in her Nokia 7650. As any proud parent, she downloads those images to show to her friends. Both Ateneans, Ralph is a BS Psychology major while Renz is a junior in high school. "They also wanted to be in show business but we brainwashed them. We kept repeating, 'You can do anything you want after you've completed your studies.'"

Their firmness in raising the kids paid off. Lorna says Ralph can read six books a day and immerses himself in videos. He and his mother have intelligent discussions analyzing a movie. Renz represents his school in some sports.

Lorna's highly-disciplined nature finds another outlet in business. An organized person, she puts her hard-earned money in businesses that will thrive in tough times—a bakery and purified water. Lorna has a franchise of Gal's Bakery, which caters to the mass market. She is also one of 19 investors in Cogeo Wet and Dry market in Antipolo. As a distributor of Crystal Clear Water, the actress managed to get some corporate accounts. She also rents out a couple of townhouses. Everything, she adds, is "Share and share alike" with her husband.

At past 40, Lorna has stopped counting the years. Not that aging bothers her, "I just don't like the number," she chuckles.

It's probably the last thing people notice about the actress who has managed to bring substance and meaning to everything she embraces. Over time, Lorna T has become her own person, inspiring others to claim their dreams through hard work.

Poetry

April

April has well-
Lighted days,
The sun illuminating
The trees leaf
By leaf, the grass
Blade by blade
And the stones
Each silent face.
So: dry days.
There is a danger
There: when the wind
Gets too warm
It could spark a fire
Among the stones,
The grass, the trees.
But the evening comes
As a total rescue:
Calming every stone,
Every skin of
The Wind. But even
After dusk has risen
Like grey curtains,
The wind lingers long
Into the night-
Rummaging the grass,
Dancing on every leaf.
In one moment it would
Rekindle the stones and
The grass, until
The trees would catch up
Emerald fires whose
Cinders would burn
The narrow edges of
My breath.
I would be sure
Of the wind,
The warm stones;
But late evening
Fires? Could it be
That I am seeing
The gathering of fireflies
And keep mistaking them
For burning trees? And
The cinders, ancient
Fevers resurging?

Julius Sering Clar

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

The Boys

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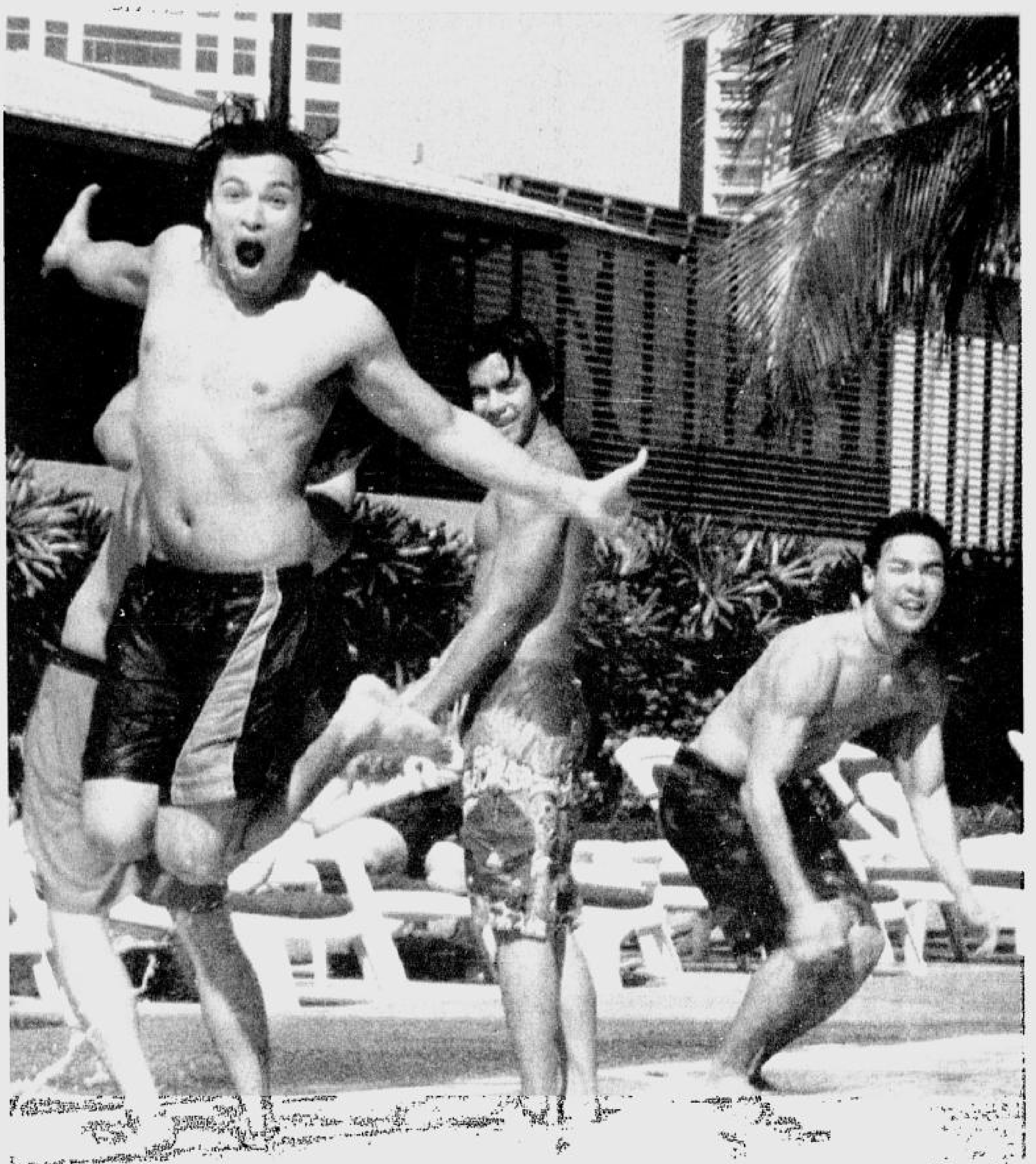


Never a dry moment: frolicking at the pool

They are the former PowerBoys, made famous by that Rexona commercial, but now abbreviated to a quartet called Powerfour after the departure of Filipino-Australian model and TV host Geff Rodriguez. They were forced to change the group's name after ABS-CBN, their former network, reportedly claimed that the name was the network's property.

Here, in their own words, the boys talk about Geff's decision to leave the group, their professional problems (were other stars really jealous of them, gasp?), conquering new horizons (which includes releasing their debut album under Universal Records) and the hazards of being some of the sexiest beefcake specimen in the country. During the shoot at the poolside of the New World Renaissance Hotel, Greg, Jordan, Frank and Jay flirted with tourists, somersaulted into the pool and left the SIM team screaming, "*Wala kaming* insurance! (Careful! We don't provide insurance to our subjects!)"

SIM: Let's get down to business. What happened to Geff? Why are there only four of you left?

Jay: One night, I caught Geff kissing Santa Claus...(laughs)

Greg: I want to make it clear that we have nothing against Geff. Our problem is not with him. It never was. Even when Geff was with us, he did his work, he's a good model.

Frank: The problem was with our managers.

Jordan: *Oo. Pero sa amin, wala 'yon.*

Frank: His manager was trying to take over the group.

Greg: She wasn't doing the family thing. That's it.

SIM: What happened with the ABS-CBN deal? Why did you disappear from (the noontime show) "MTB"?

Jay, Greg, Frank and Jordan: Ask them.

Greg: Actually, we had a chance to go back. But we opted to end it after our six-month contract expired last February 8. The problem was that they didn't give us enough opportunities to do what we wanted to do.

Frank: Someone told us that there was jealousy. We were not in-house talents of the network, and we were getting all that attention.

Jordan: They got us, *tapos ano ang ginawa namin sa* "MTB"? (but left us doing nothing at the show).

Greg: We're not being *mayabang* (conceited) or anything, but there's a lot we can do. There's so much more to us than the stuff we used to do on the show.

Frank: We had been on the show for four months when we asked if we could do other things, like host or sing. It never happened.

Jay: I don't think they were ever really serious about using us.

Frank: They wanted us to sign a contract. But we refused. I think that was it.

SIM: Did anything good come out of that stint?

Jay: The publicity.

Frank: At first, it was hard adjusting, but we got to know some really good people. Like Randy (Santiago), Bentong, and Dennis Padilla. The dancers were great, too.

SIM: Now for the more pleasant stuff. What's it like being fawned over by girls and women of all ages?

Jay: For me, it's surprising. I did a lot of commercials before, but I never got reactions like I do now!

Jordan: *Lahat kami hindi makapaniwala.* (All of us can't believe it.)

Jay: *Kahit matatanda na at walang ngipin, hinahabol pa rin kami!* (Even old ladies run after us!) (*Laughs*).

Greg: I love it! I'm the only single (*read: unattached*) guy in the group, and whenever girls run after us, I'm in my element! The only thing is, we have to keep changing our cell phone numbers almost monthly.

SIM: Any funny stories to share? Do you get underwear thrown at you on stage, marriage proposals, that sort of thing?

Greg: I remember once, my underwear was stolen! We were doing a provincial show in Cebu and we were staying at the Holiday Plaza. Jay and I were sharing a room, and one night, he left the door unlocked. When we got back to the room, my underwear was missing. I hung it in the closet, and it was gone!

Jay: And he hadn't even washed it! (*Laughs*)

Jordan: *Minsan nga, yung ibang* fans, *pumupunta sa kuwarto namin, tapos kakatok at hihingi ng* picture. *O kaya inaabangan kami.* (Some fans go to our rooms to ask for pictures. Or ambush us when we come out).

Greg: Sometimes they reach out and grab our... they even squeeze *pa nga*.

Jordan: Once, I had a fan who said, "Jordan, *anakan mo naman ako*." (I want your baby.) I just laugh it off.

Jay: But hey, we owe it to them. The fans brought us to this point. They've earned the right to have pictures taken with us, and all that stuff.

SIM: Do you have girlfriends, and how do they put up with all this attention?

Jay: Yes, I have a girlfriend. We've been together for five years. I don't know why people in showbiz think that if you have a girlfriend, the fans won't like you anymore. But it works because my girlfriend knows it's just that—work.

Greg: Mine had the jealous girlfriend syndrome, that's why we're not together anymore.

Frank: My girlfriend doesn't have any problem with my being in showbiz. The only problem is when it's our anniversary, and she wants to go out but I can't because of our schedules. But I tell her that if I'm busy, it's because I'm doing this for our future.

Jordan: My ex-wife is abroad. We're having the marriage annulled. Our son is living with her parents, and my only regret is that I don't get to see him often enough because of our tight schedule. I have a girlfriend right now, and she knows about my son. There's no problem, because we love each other a lot.

SIM: How would you describe each other?

Jay: Greg is from New York, so he's very American in his way of thinking. He's also the most daring. Jordan is the typical Filipino guy. Frank? He's the most vain of all of us. *Siya ang pinakamatagal sa banyo!* (He takes the longest time in the bathroom!) And he's very moody—one minute, he's okay, smiling and everything, then the next minute, he's throwing a tantrum. *Para siyang bata* (he's like a kid).

Greg: Jay is very frank and honest. He always speaks out about what's bothering him. He's also very vocal about things. But basically, we're all like that. What you see is what you get. We're all very real and honest.

SIM: You've seen the all-male Masculados? What do you think of them?

Greg: Yes, we've seen them. They're nice.

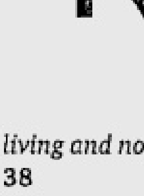
SIM: But how are you different from them? You're both all-male groups that sing and dance. They've just released an album, and you're releasing your own soon.

Jay: Well, let's put it this way. We're *NSync, and they're Hagibis.

Enough said.

The Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote



An Easter Sunday Story Retold

Our God is a God of life and our common vocation is to stay alive and appreciate life—not after death, but here and now

"For our God is the God of the living and not of the dead, and for Him all are alive." Luke 20:38

Twins in the womb are having a brother-sister conversation:

Sister: Do you think there is life after this?

Brother: No. no. You are imagining things again. This is all there is and this is all we need—this dark and cozy space. We only have to cling to the cord that feeds us and we'll be okay.

Sister: But there must be something more than this place. There has to be something else—a place with light where there is freedom to move.

(Brother is not convinced. Silence.)

Sister: Hey, I have something more to tell you. I believe you won't believe that, too, but I think there is a mother.

Brother (furious): A mother? What are you talking about? I have never seen a mother. Have you? Who put that silly idea in your head? I told you, this place is all we have. Why do you always want more? This is not a bad place after all. So, let's be content.

(Sister is quite upset by her brother's attitude. Silence. Meanwhile, she starts to feel strange spasms all over her body.)

Sister: Do you feel what I feel? This squeezing on my body is becoming more frequent and painful.

Brother: Yes, I do. What's special about that?

Sister: Well, I think these spasms are preparing us for another place more beautiful and comfortable than this where we'll see our mother face to face. Don't you think that's exciting?

(Brother is silent. He is fed up with the fantasies of his sister. The best thing for him to do, he says to himself, is to ignore her.)

It was useless for the unborn twins to discuss life outside the womb. After all, no fetus ever moved out of it and returned to tell about the magic of sunset and Christmas lights and a mother's kiss—outside the womb.

Likewise, it is a waste of time guessing and fantasizing about the wonders of life after death. After all, no one except Jesus ever experienced rising from death. No one except Jesus has returned to tell us about dying, rising again and living forever in a place called heaven.

"In my Father's house," Jesus said, "are many mansions. Otherwise, I would not have told you that I go to prepare a place for you. I shall come again and take you with me so that where I am, you also may be." (Jn 14:2-3)

There is no use speculating, as the Sadducees in Jesus' time did, about the magic and wonder of "life after this." Our Faith teaches that the end of our journey here on earth is not death but life after death. The dying and rising again of Jesus Christ are not merely the act of resuscitation of a corpse back to earthly life, nor merely the apparition of a good ghost.

The Resurrection of Jesus is rising to life beyond death, beyond time and space. It transcends earthly life—a life of eating, drinking, merry-making, power-tripping, marrying, procreating, etc. The Risen Life is the life which we are being invited to share according to God's great promise: "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it dawned on the mind what God has prepared for those who love Him." (1 Cor. 2:9)

Therefore, let this issue rest on the strength of God's faithfulness to His promise. Let our focus be not on Death and Dying or the near or remote Future, but on our common challenge to live in the present moment, to defend life and to walk in solidarity with those who are struggling to live as an act of protest against the "culture of death." For our God is a God of life and of the living, and our common vocation is to stay alive and appreciate life, to be responsible for the life of others as we wait for God's reign—not after death, but here and now.

Only one reigns with over 9 million subscribers this summer

The blazing hot days of summer are with us once again and Smart is in full throttle party mode, With Smart's 8 million subscriber milestone celebrations still fresh in the minds of all those who reveled during the Domin8 series last December, Smart kicked off this summer with yet another reason to celebrate: another 1 million subscribers earned in a span of just a few months, bringing its ever-growing subscriber base to over a whopping 9 million.

Smart Rei9ns is undoubtedly the theme party of the year. Aptly, the parties are being thrown in 9 popular hotspots across the country. Baguio, Subic, Enchanted Kingdom, Batangas. Puerto Galera, Boracay, Cebu, Davao and Metro Manila, are the chosen destinations that have gotten blitzed by a series of concerts, parties, games and dazzling firework displays.

Since April 16, the Smart Rei9ns festivities have been in full swing in Baguio, Batangas, Boracay and Enchanted Kingdom.

For Smart subscribers who chose to reminisce Panagbenga and spend the holidays amidst the pine trees and crisp mountain air of Baguio, a free refreshing welcome drink awaited them at either Baguio Country Club or Camp John Hay, where they could also enjoy the shows at the Ballfield. For those who opted for the powder-fine sand and turquoise green waters of Boracay, discounted tickets to a 3-day Easter dance carnival featuring Slinky and Anton Ramos were offered to beach partyphiles on the Smart network, with a free beer to boot. And for a totally enchanting offer, free 'Ride All' tickets have been available at Enchanted Kingdom for every ticket bought using Smart Money or Mobile Coupon.

Smart Rei9ns is in fact a treasure trove of offers designed to make each and every one of their 9 million subscribers feel rewarded for their loyalty, as well as give new subscribers a taste of what makes Smart simply amazing.

And for those who aren't yet on the Smart network. there are myriad reasons to sign up pronto. With Smart Buddy, you can own a brand new Nokia 2100 for just or a Nokia 3315 for only at incredibly affordable prices. Or if you prefer, SIM Swap to a Smart Buddy 64K Super SIM and get neat summer premium items via pick-a-prize, ranging from mesh bags, visors, caps, waterproof cell pouches and beach mats. Similarly, you can also purchase a Smart Buddy 64K Super SIM for only P199 and avail of the premium items via pick-a-prize as well.

With Talk 'N Text, grab a stylish mesh bag when you SIM Swap to Talk 'N Text Power SIM, purchase a Talk 'N Text Power SIM for only P150 or when you purchase a minimum Call and Text Card of just P300.

With Smart Gold, SIM Swap or avail of the Gold Rush package and get a cool premium item. The higher the plan, the more premium the item. You can also avail of a free vanity kit by simply activating "My Calendar" and "Horoscope" and Smart IDD is giving away free cool postcards to visitors at the booth.

For those who load their celfones using Smart Electronic Load, a chance to win a premium item through pick-a-prize awaits you. The more credits you load, the more chances you get of picking-a-prize. And with Smart Money, enroll in the loyalty program, pay just P200 and get a stylish mesh bag or vanity kit. Also, you can register to Smart Mobile Coupon service by typing <Reg First Name, Last Name, Birthday, Gender, Interest, # of messages to be received/week> and send to 270 for 3 chances to win a pen or notepad.

And finally, for the savvy techies out there who indulge in a lot of MMS, activate your Smart MMS and GPRS features using your MMS-capable handset and get a chance to win a stylish mesh beach bag.

Expect to see more perks exclusively for Smart subscribers in all 9 hotspots. A 'Mobile Pitstop', for instance, is a new concept designed to assist Smart subscribers with their celfone needs. Expect to see a lounge and service center exclusively for Smart transactions. This is just one of the many privileges in store for Smart subscribers this summer.

Expect to see and hear more about Smart Rei9ns as we prepare for yet another heatwave. If one thing's for sure, there'll be at least 9 million happy, partying out-of-towners this summer…

ADVT

Music Makers

By Eric S. Caruncho

Singing for Change

ROGER CARPIO

Can pop music change the country's politics? Trina Belamide, one of the local recording industry's most sought-after songwriter and producer today, hopes so. Her recently-launched album, "Pagbabago" makes listeners feel empowered enough to try

TODAY's top-selling recording artists are Patricia Javier, the Sex Bomb Girls and Joyce Jimenez: non-singers all, but who cares? Not, it would seem, the buying public.

This being the case, now may not be the best time to release an album of "message" songs calling for social, political and personal renewal—not unless the CD has a bonus sexy music video. (It doesn't.)

This hasn't discouraged songwriter Trina Belamide and her colleagues at pagbabago@pilipinas. Last February, the movement quietly launched "Pagbabago," an album of songs written by Belamide and recorded by some of the country's most popular artists. They include Regine Velasquez, Jolina Magdangal, Aegis, Mystica, the Apo and Jaya. But the album also involves some left-field choices, such as Grace Nono, Radha and Da Pulis.

The thread that holds the songs together, as the title implies, is a collective yearning for positive change—in our attitudes, our politics and the way we live our lives.

"I didn't want a preachy kind of album telling people 'don't do this, this is what you should be doing'," says Belamide. "I wanted the songs to empower people, to make them realize that they are capable of becoming catalysts for change. I wanted songs that people could make as their own personal anthems, so many of them were written in the first person."

Believe it or not, one of the inspirations for "Pagbabago" was Destiny's Child—not so much in the sound of the music as in the way the R & B group's songs made the listener feel—in a word, empowered.

Born from the tumult that followed in the wake of Edsa II, pagbabago@pilipinas was formed as "a cultural-social movement for the radical transformation of Philippine society." It is a diverse assembly composed of businessmen, members of the academe, people from the NGO world, media professionals, artists and ordinary citizens. Its aim was to harness the energy and momentum of Edsa II into "an autonomous cultural-social force to develop effective strategies for transforming the corrupt and wasteful aspects of Philippine politics."

"Pagbabago," the album, is just one concrete expression of this desire for new politics.

"I guess Edsa II was my political awakening," says Belamide. "I was kind of guilty of having been apathetic all these years, but Edsa II inspired me a lot."

Belamide started writing songs as a hobby in high school. Her songs were good enough to win school competitions. Her songwriting and arranging skills were further honed in college, when she joined the Ateneo College Glee Club while studying mass communication.

Shortly after graduating in 1990, Belamide was encouraged to give full-time songwriting a shot. In 1993, her song "Now That I Have You" became the carrier single for The Company's Awit Award-winning album "Six by 6." Two of her songs for the group Axis were also nominated for the Awit Awards the following year.

But Belamide really made her mark in 1994 when she wrote "Tell The World Of His Love," which was chosen as the official theme song of World Youth Day 1995 when Pope John Paul II visited the Philippines. In the succeeding years, her songs continued to win both local competitions such as the Awit Awards and the Metropop Festival, and international tilts such as the Asia Song Festival and the USA Songwriting Competition.

Today, Belamide is one of the local recording industry's most sought-after songwriters and producers. She is also the current president of Katha, the local songwriters' guild, and a board member of the Filipino Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (Filscap).

It took all of Belamide's resources to get "Pagbabago" off the ground. To begin with, there was no money. Belamide had to personally approach each artist, their management and their record companies to get the line-up she wanted. She started from familiar turf—Regine Velasquez, The Company, APO. But in order to reach as wide an audience as possible, Belamide also involved artists she normally wouldn't have worked with, such as Grace Nono, Aegis and Mystica. In some cases, she got outside producers to work with the artists. In others, she collaborated with other composers.

"I had to trust all the artists to put in whatever they had to give to the album, and I'm happy with the results," she says.

Although the album promotes positive change in general, many of the songs zero in on electoral politics, Pinoy style. "Eleksyon Na Naman," performed by Grace Nono, for instance, is basic voter education in song form. "Idol" sung by Da Pulis basically tells voters not to be swayed by a candidate's celebrity, while "Tanggapin Mo Kung Gusto Mo" by the Apo and "Owe U Nothin'" by Radha hopes to make voters resistant to the usual blandishments candidates dispense come election day.

"I don't know how the public will take to these songs," admits Belamide. "I'm hoping it will make them think, at least. Some of the ideas in the songs might be new to some people. I'm hoping when they hear them, they'll go *'oo nga'*." And then *bahala na* where it takes them."

Whether pop music can really change someone's life is, of course, still open to debate. (Does gangsta rap turn kids into cop killers? Does heavy metal make teens suicidal?)

There is also the matter of getting the songs heard. At the moment, Belamide and her colleagues at pagbabago@pilipinas are still working out strategies for marketing the CD, and getting radio and television airplay.

At the heart of "Pagbabago" is really Belamide's faith in the power of music to move people.

"I don't claim to be a political person," she says. "There's so much I don't understand. I just know that if I don't do anything, then I'm part of the problem. And I don't want to be part of the problem."

"Maybe we've lost hope along the way," she adds. "*Dapat hindi. Dapat mabuhayan tayo ng loob* (but we should hang on), because that's the only way we're going to get out of this mess."

A Lifetime

...from page 2

received the Presidential Award of Merit from President Ferdinand Marcos for his outstanding achievement in leprosy work. He was also honored by his alma mater.

Lara's sons, Edward and Juan (Johnny) who spent their childhood in Culion remember their father as serious and distant but who showed he cared in many other ways. "When Daddy was around we had to be quiet," said Edward, an engineer. "We didn't turn on the radio. Instead, we had National Geographic and Saturday Evening Post to read. He was always in white and when he came home he made sure he dipped the soles of his shoes on a creoline solution."

The Laras lived outside the colony, in an area reserved for the officials and staff of the leprosarium. The Laras' home was beside that of pioneering American Dr. Herbert Wade and his wife Dorothy.

The Lara children were in awe of their father. Mrs. Lara was the one who provided the children with warmth and affection. Recounted Edward: "I can't recall eating with (my father). He was always occupied with his work. But I remember vividly the time he sat down with us one night and pointed to the Big Dipper."

Once in a rare while, Lara would tell stories with profound meaning to his children. Johnny, a lawyer, still remembers the story about the falcon and the thirsty hunter who was lost in the forest.

Lara liked going on nature walks in the colony. He smoked Ilocano cigars which his wife rolled for him. He would bite on them and swallow the nicotine sap. He loved to read science fiction. He was not a socially outgoing man. His social crowd was composed mainly of the Culion medical community. And he would join the trips aboard government launches for family picnics in nearby islands.

"He hated going to Manila," his son recalled. He was not given to religious piety either, although among his close friends were Jesuit Fathers Francisco Rello and Joaquin Vilallonga. "He was not a church-going man," said his son Johnny, "but once, when I went home from Manila, he put on his best suit and accompanied me to church. But he died with the blessing of the Church and with a rosary in his hand." The hospital staff regarded him with respect and, when he was not within hearing distance, fondly referred to him as "*Apo* Iro."

Like the children of the colony officials and staff, the Lara children went to the Balala public school outside the colony. The children of patients had their own schools inside the colony. Narrated Edward: "We were like the rest of the island's children. We did not feel like we were special. One of my playmates was the son of the caretaker of the Wades."

But the doctors' families were a class by themselves, Edward added. "There was a commissary where we could buy supplies. We acquired a taste for American goods, Oxford sausages and the like."

The children of non-patients were not allowed inside the colony. Said Johnny, "We rarely saw a leper. We only saw them during fiestas. The brass band which was composed of patients would go around and we would see them from our window. Or we would see patients on stage performing."

Lara wanted his children to grow up respectful and upright, Johnny added. "When Daddy learned that my rambunctious sister boxed and bloodied the mouth of her classmate, he asked her to go down and apologize. He would have none of that."

But the ex-guerrilla sympathizer knew the smell of trouble. "When a mini-uprising over some strict decrees ensued, I saw Daddy bring out his revolver."

Lara showed he cared by keeping in touch with his children when they were away in Manila for high school and college. "Oh, Daddy wrote long letters," said Johnny.

When the war broke out in Decem-

To page 7

This Week

Art

Czech Baroque Heritage, a photo exhibit that will take you back to the 17th and 18th centuries considered as the golden era of Czech architecture and art, until April 25 at the San Agustin Museum in Intramuros.

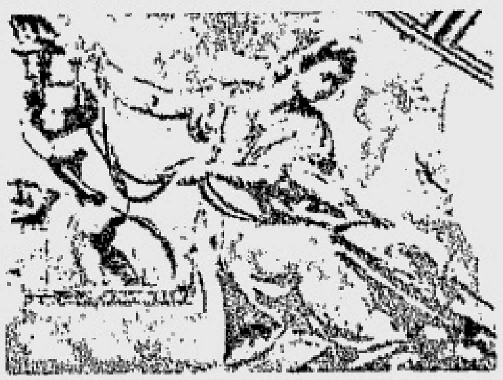
Academic, big works on paper by R.M. de Leon, until April 30 at Galleria Duemila, The Artwalk, SM Megamall A.

Conscious, Simple—Consciously Simple, a selection of furniture, lamps and household accessories by 43 designers and design groups, on view at the Tall Galleries of the Metropolitan Museum, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila until April 30.

Projections, an exhibit featuring antique charts made by Alejandro Malaspina, Jean Francois La Perouse and renowned Jesuit Pedro de Murillo Velarde, navigational maps, military maps of 1944, and maps of Manila, until July 12 at the Lopez Museum, G/F Benpres Building, Exchange Road, Pasig.

Meditations in White, a solo exhibit by Datu Arellano at the CCP's Bulwagang Fernando Amorsolo until April 28.

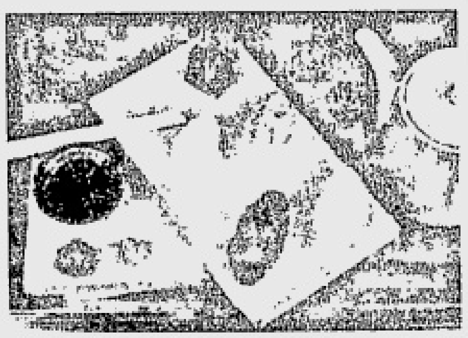
Phyllis Zaballero is holding an exhibit of her new series of artworks depicting building facades until April 30 at the Ayala Museum.



"Academic" by R.M. de Leon, on view at Galleria Duemila

On-stage

Summer [re] Run, a trilogy featuring Peta's funniest and most talked-about plays—"The Bomb!" by Rene Villanueva, "St. Anthony, Pray for Us" and "*Kumpisal*." "The Bomb!" tells the story of Jaime Eduque (Wowie de Guzman) whose budding showbiz career was made controversial by a video showing him and a talent manager in very compromising circumstances. "St. Anthony" tells the story of a single mother who incessantly loses things. "Kumpisal" is about a priest who takes his stand against abortion. The trilogy goes onstage at the Rajah Sulayman Theater, Fort Santiago, Intramuros on April 24-26, May 2-4 and May 8-9 at 7 p.m. For tickets, call 410-0822 or 724-9637.



Fruit Sushi, one of the dishes featured at Makati Shangri-La's cooking class

Food

New World Renaissance Hotel's Bocarinos restaurant presents a **special Caesar Salad** prepared by the table side as part of its dinner a la carte offerings. Crisp romaine lettuce is blended with a special Caesar dressing, croutons, fresh Parmesan cheese, cracked black pepper and topped with a choice of grilled juicy shrimp or roasted chicken. For reservations, call 811-6888.

Beat the tropical heat with **Summer Breeze**—Dusit Hotel Nikko's refreshing cocktail drink of the month. It is a unique concoction of Stolichnaya vodka, blue curacao liquer, guyabano juice, pineapple and coconut powder available at all Dusit outlets. For inquiries, call 867-3333 ext. 3301.

Atbp

Learn and earn this summer through a **basic and advanced** chocolate molding seminar on April 26. Fee is P950 inclusive of starter kit for 100 pcs chocolates, lunch, plus bonus no-bake rice crispies recipes. Seminar to be held at Estrada Street near V. Cruz LRT/DLSU from 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Group and early-bird discounts available. For inquiries, text or call Sweet Treats at 0916-8758704. Limited seats only.

The Alcove Photo Gallery invites beginning photographers and hobbyists to join **Photo 101: Photography for Beginners** by Jay Alonzo on April 26, May 3 and 10, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati Avenue, Makati City. Workshop fee is P2,500. For details, call 892-1801 or 759-3371.

Hands-on Introductory Course on Polyester Resin (figurine making, fiberglass, stained glass, lamination, encapsulation and synthetic granite) will be held on April 24-26. For details, call Polymer Products at 671-9837.

Learn the basic 24 movements of **Tai Chi**, an ancient way of exercise to achieve health and tranquility at Body Point Gym-Makati Cinema Square, or through home service. For details, call August at 852-3949.

Faber-Castell presents **We Are a Happy Family Art Contest**. Interested students aged 7-12 should color, draw or add anything to a coloring sheet of a family using any Faber-Castell coloring products such as crayons, watercolor and coloring pencils. After coloring the sheet, the entries may be dropped at drop boxes in participating National Bookstore outlets or may be mailed to Faber-Castell. P.O. Box 1725 Quezon City Central Post Office, NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City. Students may submit as many entries as possible. Deadline is June 20. For details, call 361-7391 to 92.

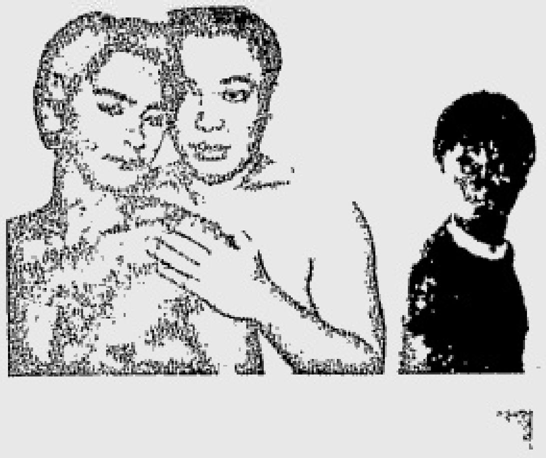
Isis Reports, a weekly 30-minute segment on women's issues hosted by Mel Estonilo and Marou Pahati Sarne on DWIZ 882 Mhz every Wednesday from 2-2:30 p.m. The show hopes to enhance women's knowledge and awareness of human rights questions, the intersectionality of gender, race, ethnicity and class. This month the "Isis Reports" will tackle Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. For details, call 435-3405.

Learn how to assemble your own PC, upgrade, configure hardware, install software and troubleshoot basic computer problems through a **Computer Assembly Workshop** on April 27 (and every last Sunday of the month), 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Isis International-Manila Office, 3 Marunong St., Teacher's Village Ext. details, call 417-1521 or 0919-740-5199.

Children are introduced to the basic elements of music at Ryan Cayabyab The Music Studio

The Leukemic Indigents Fund Endowment Inc (LIFE), a support group for poor leukemic children based at the Fe del Mundo Medical Center in Banawe, Quezon City will hold its annual **Sports for LIFE event** on April 27 at the Quezon City Memorial Circle. The mini-Olympics participated in by leukemic children is part of the LIFE's program to provide psycho-social care to children undergoing chemotherapy and other treatment of the disease. For details, call 740-7346.

On April 26, fill in the last two slots of San Mig Light's Xtreme Island Race. The send-off party happens at the Plaza Drive in Rockwell, Makati. Sign up for a new adventure sport, check out the hottest gear, or take on some alternative outdoor action. A fashion show takes place at 6:30 p.m Gates open at 4 p.m. For details, call 898-0583 to 84.

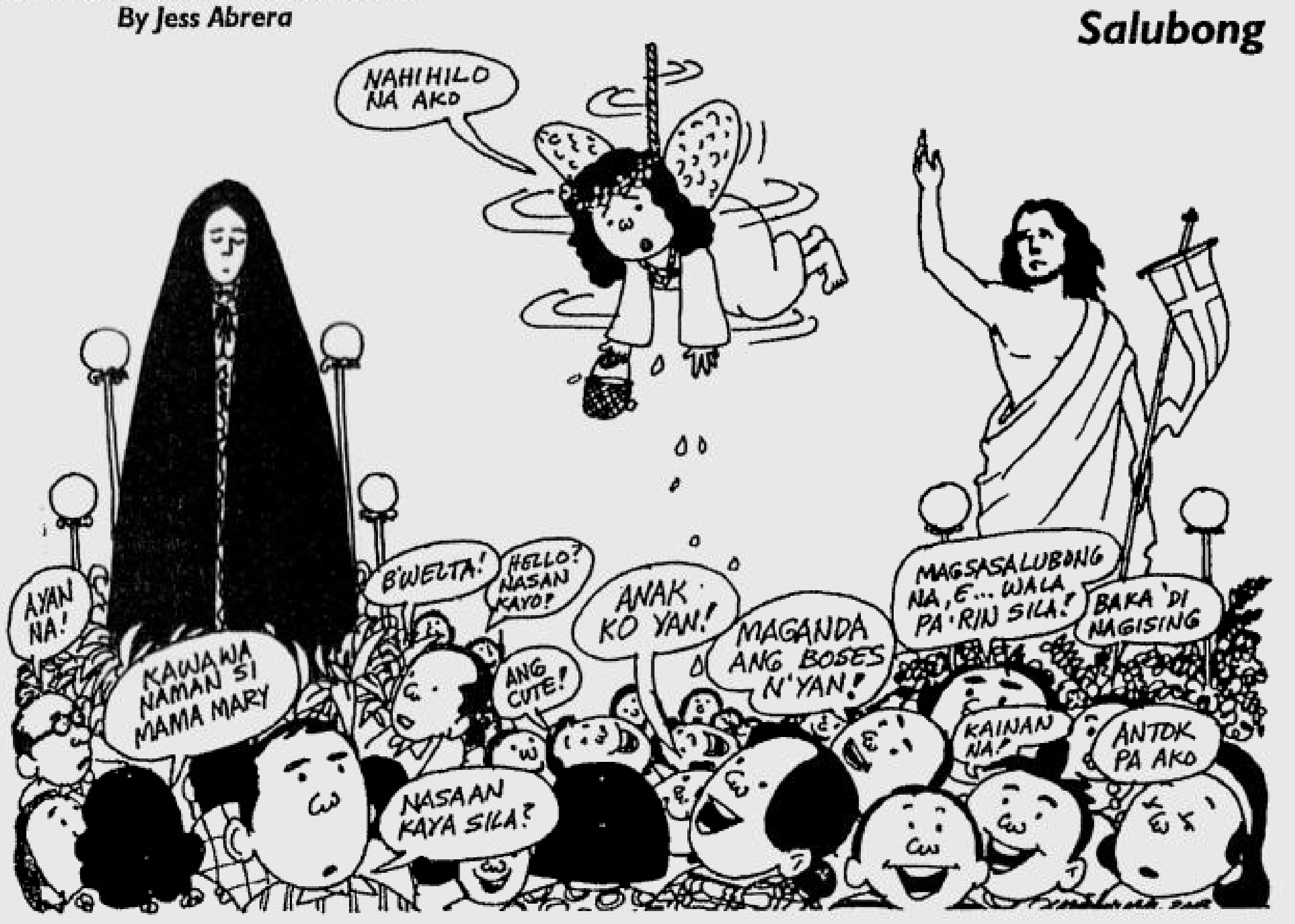


Wowie de Guzman (left) topbills Peta's "The Bomb!" at Rajah Sulayman Theater

Pinoy Nga

By Jess Abrera

Salubong


NAHIHILO NA AKO
AYAN NA!
KAWAWA NAMAN SI MAMA MARY
B'WELTA!
HELLO? NASAN KAYO?
ANG CUTE!
ANAK KO YAN!
MAGANDA ANG BOSES N'YAN!
NASAAN KAYA SILA?
MAGSASALUBONG NA, E... WALA PA RIN SILA!
BAKA 'DI NAGISING
KAINAN NA!
ANTOK PA AKO

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

The **7 Laws of the Learner seminar-workshop** will be held on April 26-27 at the ACCM Building, 102 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Reservations accepted until April 25. For details, call 823-2615.

The San Miguel Foundation for the Performing Arts is now accepting **applications for vacant seats of the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra and the San Miguel Master Chorale.** Auditions for professional violinists and double bass players for the orchestra, and sopranos and basses for the choir will be held on April 25 at the SMFPA Offices, Basement Level, San Miguel Corporation Head Office Complex. Orchestra applicants must be prepared to play a sonata or a concerto of his/her choice and an orchestral excerpt on sight that will be chosen by the jury. Aspiring singers for the chorale must sing his/her part in a pre-assigned choral score and render two songs of his/her choice from the following anthologies: English anthology, Italian anthology, German lied, French chanson or Filipino kundiman. Interested artists must bring two passport-sized color photos during office hours where they will be asked to fill in the application forms and submit a copy of their chosen pieces. All requirements must be completed not later than April 23. For details, call Deo Dipasupil at 632-3769.

Pan Pacific Manila celebrates its fifth year anniversary until May 31 where guests can avail themselves of special room rates and packages. Guests who checked in from April 15 to May 31 are entitled to join the raffle for a chance to win a trip to Cebu via Philippine Airlines and accommodation at Plantation Bay Resort & Spa. For reservations, call 536-0788.

Makati Shangri-La convenes the fourth class of its **five-course culinary demonstration series** on April 26, 10 a.m. at Quezon Ballroom. Executive chef Christopher Romine, assisted by Japanese executive chef Kimito Katagiri will conduct a step-by-step demonstration of three Japanese dishes namely Karei Nitsuke, Sukiyaki and Fruit Sushi. The last class of this five-course series is scheduled on May 24 and will feature another set of recipes. Fee is P1,100 net per person inclusive of lunch. For inquiries, call 813-8888 ext. 7588.

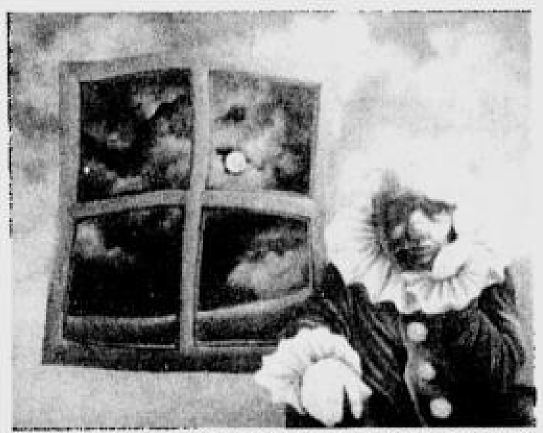
Ryan Cayabyab The Music Studio offers **Musikgarten**, a course that introduces kids ages 3-7 to the basic elements of music through a variety of activities. The studio also offers Vocal Performance Workshop in Musical Theater where students will be taught techniques on how songs from stage musicals are sung. Classes start on April 22. For details, call 843-2874 or 844-3330.

On April 26, May 10 and 24, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Filipinas Heritage Library will host **Toys and Stories**, a storytelling session with a healthy dose of art projects. It will feature a session on making toys, from picture frames to ref magnets for kids 3-10 years old. Admission fee is P150 inclusive of materials. Also, a **Poetry Workshop** will be held on April 22 and 29, May 6 and 13, 6-8:30 p.m. Workshop fee is P1,500 inclusive of handouts and certificates. For details, call 892-1801.

X-manila

The Daet Arts Council presents the **First Bagasbas International Eco-Arts Festival** to be held at the Bagasbas Beach in Daet, Camarines Norte from April 21-26. The festival committee has invited six top Filipino and international artists to undertake a collaborative installation artwork with selected barangays and local volunteers. It will also feature a lecture series on Philippine art and its relationship to the local communities. For details, call 752-7317.

Langit? Mga Nahuling Kerubin, a group exhibit of paintings and sculptural works at The Sanctuary Gallery at Maryknoll, Campo Sioco, Baguio City until June 22. The exhibit features the works of Aldo Bautista, Shan Jose, Karlo Palima and Vincent Santayana.



***"Langit? Mga Nahuling Kerubin,"* on exhibit at The Sanctuary Gallery in Baguio City**

Summer Breeze, Dusit Hotel Nikko's Drink of the Month

A Lifetime

...from page 6

ber 1941, Mrs. Lara and the children were in Magsingal, Ilocos Sur. Lara was himself in Manila around that time. Luckily, he missed the boat that was torpedoed by the Japanese. While waiting it out in Ilocos, recounted Edward, his father aided the guerrillas by ministering to the wounded and the sick.

Lara was back in Culion after the war. He assumed the post of Chief of the Colony in 1947 while forging ahead with his research with chaulmoogra oil, and most of all, among the children. He even tested the efficacy of the topical application of copperplate on lesions.

The Lara years were a significant era in the annals of Culion. After he retired in 1962 Lara opted to stay on as a consultant. By then, the Lara children had all grown up and had families of their own. His grandchildren's visits were something he enjoyed. Recalled grandson Jimmy who spent a year with his grandparents there: "He would allow us to go out to sea with the fishermen. But he would sit on the shore with his binoculars, scanning the sea to make sure we were okay."

Lara was a protective nature lover as well. Hilarion Guia, the first elected mayor of Culion, said Lara did a lot to preserve the forest on the island. Culion's ecotourism potential has not been left unnoticed.

"Believe it or not," recalled Lara's grandson, "he knew how many birds came to perch on the tree beside the house. One day we hit one and it died. He knew something happened and called all of us to own up. We had to show him where we buried the dead bird."

Lara spent almost 60 years of his life among the patients in Culion, leaving an indelible mark on their life in the late 1940s to the 1950s. Despite his age, bouts with asthma and heart problems, Lara remained in Culion, working as a consultant without pay until his death on July 25, 1981 at the age of 85. It was in Culion that he breathed his last. It was here that he wished to be laid to rest. In his island beloved.

Excerpted from the recently launched coffee-table book "Culion Island: A Leper Colony's 100-Year Journey Toward Healing" published by Culion Foundation Inc. and Fundacion Anesvad of Spain.

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Diesel Mechanic
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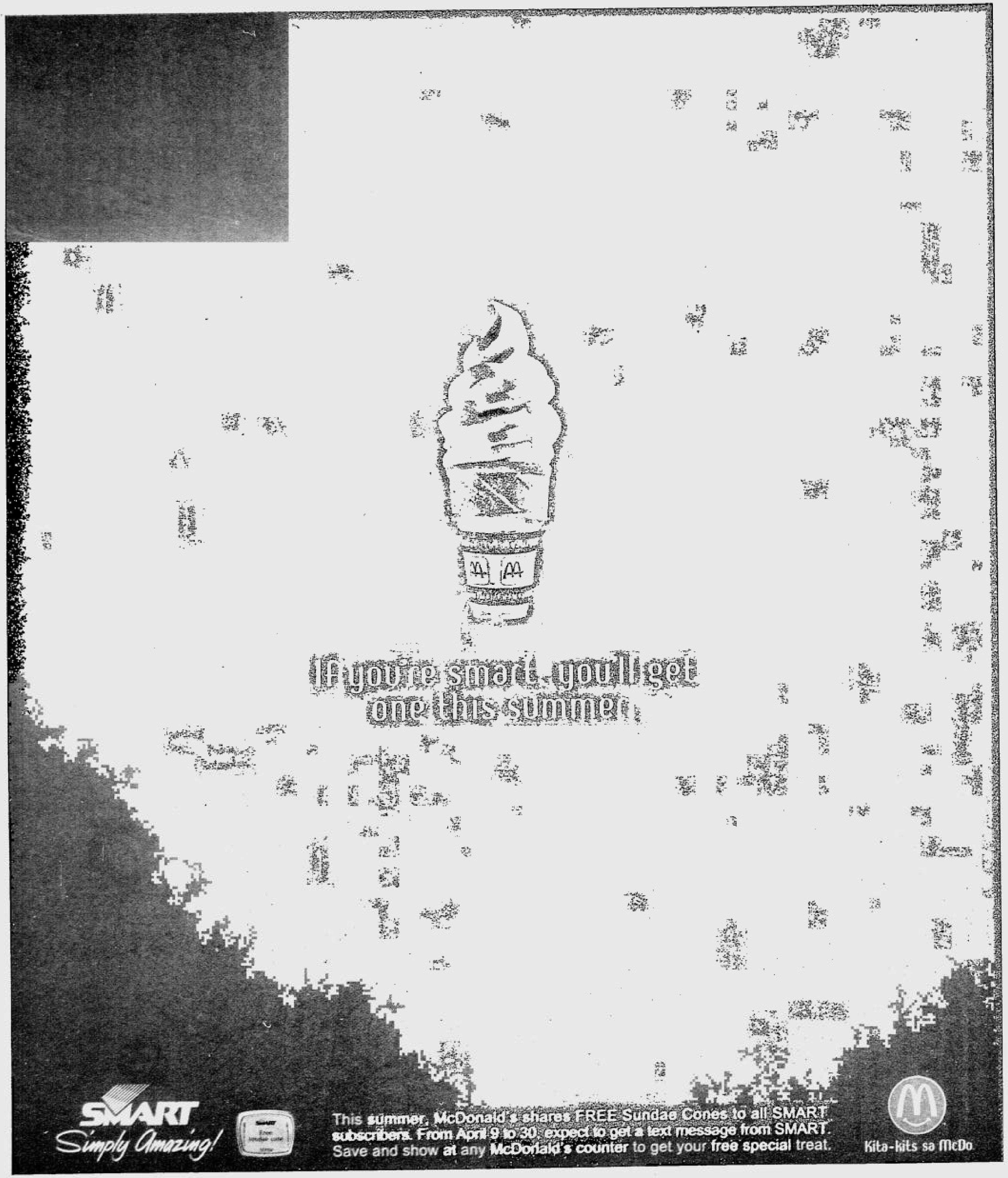
HIGH SCHOOL (YEAR 1 TO 4)



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2. To qualify for the FREE Regular French Fries, subscribers just need to download a SMART Mobile Coupon by sending: FRIES <Age/Gender> to 337. Ex. FRIES 25/F
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